DUDLEY
CHRONICLE

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Hair today...

Nathan uses his head to raise funding for charity

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Good pickin'

No need to fret for band in warehouse concert

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Czech out time

Jason takes the points during his warm-up bout

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TOWN'S NEW LIFE NOW EVEN CLOSER

by Heather Large

THE regeneration of Dudley town centre has moved a step closer after multi-million pound proposals for a new supermarket were recommended for approval by council planners.

Cavendish Quarter Properties Ltd wants to build the superstore and petrol station on the site of outdated office block Cavendish House in Trindle Road. The proposals, which could bring up to 300 full and part-time jobs, are now poised to be given the go ahead at a meeting next week. Planning officers at Dudley Council have backed the scheme saying it will bring employment to the town and revamp a partially derelict site, which has been earmarked for regeneration. Under the plans, Cavendish House, which has previously been branded "an eyesore" by residents, will be knocked down. The site, as well as neighbouring land, will be cleared to make way for the store and petrol station.

A total of 402 parking spaces will be provided partly underneath the store and on two decked levels.

It will be operated as a free car park, limited to a two hour maximum stay.

Planning officers said: "On balance even though there are acknowledged potential impacts on some existing food stores within Dudley and the catchment area, the proposed development will lead to the positive improvement of an existing, partly derelict Dudley town centre development site."

Outlook

The scheme has been welcomed by English Heritage, who said the development would "potentially help to improve the overall outlook towards the town centre from the castle".

Chris McPherson, development director for Cavendish Quarter Properties, said: "Our proposal is all about offering people an alternative to out-of-town supermarkets and also represents a significant investment by us into Dudley town centre, potentially creating up to 300 new jobs; bolstering the local economy, and significantly regenerating an important and prominent area of Dudley."

The plans will go before members of the council's planning committee at a meeting next Monday.

The scheme is one of three proposed new supermarkets in the town centre. Avenbury has also lodged plans for the Cavendish House site.

While Commercial Estates Group wants to build a store where Falcon House now stands in the Minories.

Rubbish battle has so far cost £50,000

A LEGAL row over a towering pile of rubbish overlooking Dudley homes has already cost the taxpayer more than £50,000 it emerged ahead of a High Court showdown next week.

The payout for the Environment Agency includes almost £10,000 for an aircraft to fly over the waste site to create a 3D map.

But the organisation said the clean up at Refuse Derived Fuel Ltd, Brierley Hill, would have been £800,000 if they had not taken court action to ensure an end to the row.

Residents demanded action over the waste pile at the plant.

More than 200 tons of waste was removed by the firm, also known as RDF Ltd. However, a three-day hearing is starting at the High Court sitting in Birmingham on Monday with the Environment Agency demanding further sanctions.

The court will rule on whether the waste pile breached the terms of RDF's permits.

The Environment Agency will also apply for a mandatory injunction against the defendants, requiring the waste to be cleared back.

Figures on estimated legal costs were revealed through a Freedom of Information request.

Tax survey 'is a waste'

DUDLEY Council's biggest ever public consultation - on whether people want to pay more council tax or face a £29 million axe on services - is a waste of money, says a councillor.

The Labour-controlled authority says, if the tax does not increase, it will have to slash £29 million from its budgets.

But Tory opposition leader Councillor Les Jones said: "They are spending thousands of pounds of taxpayers' money saying, basically, we don't know what to do – you tell us."

● Views – Page 3

Crash victim gets millions for injuries

A MAN left disabled for life after he was knocked down by an uninsured driver has won a multi-million-pound High Court compensation package.

The victim, who is in his 30s and from Dudley but cannot be identified for legal reasons, suffered devastating head injuries when he was run over in 2004.

He was left with serious behavioural and cognitive difficulties and depends on round-the-clock professional care for his day-to-day needs. Through his family, he sued the driver who caused the accident.

Following out-of-court negotiations, he has accepted a multi-million pound compensation deal.

The package includes an £850,000 lump sum, together with yearly payments, starting at £107,500 and rising with inflation, to fund his care for the rest of his life. Mr Justice Griffith Williams approved the payout, saying it was in the "best interests" of the claimant for the case to be settled.

"The greater proportion of the claim is, of course, that for future care, there being no issue the claimant needs significant one-to-one input indefinitely," he said. The court heard that, although the man is able to go fishing and to pubs with his carers, he suffers serious difficulties in looking after himself. Experts have agreed his condition will not improve. Because the driver was not insured, the man's damages will be paid by the Motor Insurers' Bureau, the industry body which compensates the victims of uninsured drivers.

Jack's flying high with his new flag

Unveiling his winning Gornal flag for 2013, Jack Rogers, aged six, of Upper Gornal, with the mayor of Dudley, councillor Melvyn Mottram and community members

A FLAG designed by a six-year-old which celebrates his Dudley village's history, community and future has been unfurled.

The official flag for Gornal was designed as part of a school competition by winning entrant Jack Rogers, of Roberts Primary School. On Saturday, it was unveiled and hoisted on its pole by Dudley's mayor, Councillor Melvyn Mottram at the corner of Abbey Street and Abbey Road.

The schoolboy's design features the colour green to represent life, black to mark the village's coal mining history and the sun to show the place as bright and cheerful.

Jack said: "Seeing the flag up high in the sky in the village makes me very happy."

Mother is burned as her house set on fire

A MOTHER suffered serious burns to her head and neck and her baby was rescued after a house was set on fire in Rowley Regis.

The mother, who has been named locally as Louise, was engulfed in flames and had to put them out by rolling around on the lawn at the front of the house in Haden Walk.

Neighbours rushed out to help her before turning their attention to her 13-month-old daughter who was still inside.

They attempted to get in by using a ladder and smashing a bedroom window before fire crews intervened and brought out the baby. She was taken to Birmingham Children's Hospital.

Police say the fire, which happened just before 1am on Sunday morning, was started deliberately.

They believe the woman was attacked in her garden before the arsonist deliberately used accelerants to start a fire at the property.

The 31-year-old was recovering in Queen Elizabeth Hospital after suffering 15 per cent burns. A 42-year-old Dudley man has been arrested on suspicion of attempted murder. He is also recovering in hospital.

The woman's other daughter, aged nine, was unharmed.

Detectives want to hear from anyone who witnessed the incident or noticed any suspicious activity.

Canal Trust jobs on way

NEW jobs will be created as part of a £3million education, exhibition and heritage centre being built by Dudley Canal Trust.

The new building, called The Portal, would be sited at the canal tunnel entrance.

The attraction is looking to appoint new skippers, ticket office attendants and a co-ordinator to oversee the learning and training services.

More positions may become available once the new centre is up and running.

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Breast cancer inspires weight loss

Denise Millard who has lost six stone

WHEN she tipped the scales at 18 stone, Denise Millard knew she had to do something about her weight.

But it was battling breast cancer that inspired her to take the first step. The 52-year-old mother said: "I was going through chemotherapy and I just remember telling myself that, if I came through it, I would do something about my weight. I'd never really wanted to do anything about it before but I thought, after my cancer, that I'd been given a second chance at life and I shouldn't waste it."

Mrs Millard, of Poole Crescent, Coseley, said she had "always been a big girl" and had put on more weight as an adult due to her health problems. She said: "My exercise level was zero and I was living mainly on junk food. I was also working in a cafe – as I am now – so I was around food all day."

In March 2010 she finally decided to tackle her weight problem and joined Weight Watchers. After 18 months of hard work, Mrs Millard achieved her goal weight of 11st 6lb in June.

She said: "Everyone was so helpful and I couldn't have got through all this without my wonderful husband Philip and daughter Tammy."

Denise with her husband Philip

Wasp sting proved to be fatal for gardener

A LANDSCAPE gardener collapsed and died after being stung by a wasp at his home in Dudley, an inquest has heard.

Raymond Ross, aged 41, suffered face swelling and shortness of breath following the insect bite. He then collapsed and was attended to by emergency paramedics at his home in Dudley.

The ambulance crew tried to revive him and he was rushed to Russells Hall Hospital but he was pronounced dead 20 minutes after they attended his address.

At Dudley Coroner's Court last week, Black Country coroner Robin Blamain opened an inquest into the Mayfield Road resident's death on June 10.

He read out evidence from consultant pathologist Dr Swapna Ghosh.

The pathologist said Mr Ross had 14 times the expected levels of mast cell tryptase in his blood – tryptase is involved with allergenic response in the body and a raised level can indicate an anaphylactic reaction.

Collapsed

Tests showed he had 200mg of mast cell tryptase per litre of blood. Normal levels range from two to 14mg per litre of blood.

Mr Balmain said: "The pathologist reports this was an extremely high level due to the bee or wasp venom."

He added: "He had been stung by a wasp at home and his face started to swell.

"He had shortness of breath and collapsed.

"Paramedics arriving attempted to resuscitate Mr Ross. But he was pronounced dead at 10.25pm."

The inquest heard how he had regularly been bitten by insects as part of his job, but had never suffered health problems as a result.

Mr Balmain, who recorded a narrative verdict, said: "Mr Ross' death was due to an adverse reaction to an insect bite."

Christmas cop shops set up to fight crime

POLICE officers will be hitting the high street in a bid to tackle crime and advise shoppers in Stourbridge and Halesowen .

They will be setting up base in two vacant shops in for a festive crime prevention initiative.

Officers are warning people to be vigilant during the busy shopping period for pick-pockets operating in the crowds.

One of the "cop shops" will be in Stourbridge's Ryemarket Shopping Centre.

The other will be in the Queensway, near Halesowen bus station. Both will be open throughout December.

Sgt Steve Gordon, based at Stourbridge police station, has helped organise the project.

He said: "The cop shop will be run by officers and police community support officers to talk to the community and offer crime prevention tips to locals.

"We will be reminding people to keep their handbags close to them, as we do see a rise in pick-pockets at this time of year and will also be offering a property marking service, where we will be happy to securely UV mark your new Christmas goods."

Dancers step to it for exams

Ballet exam success – Neat Feet School of Dance teacher Lynne Rowell with students Eve Spencer, Jack Ciasullo, both aged six, and Megan Phillipps, eight

DANCE students have wowed judges with their moves in their latest exams to score top marks.

Members of Neat Feat School of Dance, Brierley Hill, were put through their paces in ballet, tap and freestyle tests.

They have been trained by the school's principal Lynne Rowell over the past few weeks ahead of the exams. The 49-year-old, from Stourbridge, is an accomplished dancer, having trained at The Ballet Rambert, London and has travelled all over the world dancing and choreographing shows.

Lynne said: "Neat Feet students worked really hard for the big day and I was extremely proud of everyone."

She has also helped friend Jacqueline Parade, from Stafford, pass her teaching exams.

£26,000 benefits cheat tells of illness

A WOMAN who fraudulently claimed more than £26,000 in benefits said her estranged husband had moved back into her home to help while she battled cancer.

Jacqueline Mills, aged 43, of Coppice Lane, Brierley Hill, admitted three charges when she appeared at Dudley Magistrates Court last week.

They were failing to notify the Department for Work and Pensions that her husband Stuart Hope had moved back in with her; failing to declare this in order to get tax credits; and failing to tell the council of this change in order to get housing and council tax benefit.

Mr Tim Talbot-Webb, defending, said Mills had been diagnosed with cancer in June 2009 – a few months after she and Mr Hope were separated.

When he realised she was struggling to cope with her illness and their four children – aged between six and 17 – he moved back in, the court was told.

Between then and this June, she was given £26,534.32 in benefits and tax credits which were based on her living as the only adult in the family home.

The hearing was adjourned until January 4 for sentencing.

Inquest told of theft fear

A MAN'S personal belongings were stolen after he shot himself with an air gun at his Lye home, an inquest heard. Stephen Round, aged 38, died in Malvern Avenue, on March 27.

At an inquest at Dudley Coroners' Court last week, his family said they believed his belongings were taken after his death and before emergency services were called. "There was a delay between his father being called and the calling of 999," his sister, Angela Round, said. "His stereo system and bike were missing, and his wallet was empty."

Black Country coroner Robin Balmain said: "Mr Round died of a gun shot wound to the head. He killed himself."

Advent service

THE Mothers' Union in Hagley holds its advent service at St Saviour's Church on December 13.

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Archives centre is on track

DUDLEY'S new £6million archives and local history centre is on track to open next summer.

All of the steel structure is in place and the block and brickwork is also being carried out.

In the coming weeks, the roof will be installed on the centre, which is being built near the Black Country Living Museum in Tipton Road.

Friends of Dudley Archives and Local History Service group recently took a tour of the site.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, said: "We are extremely pleased with the progress of the new borough archives centre and are looking forward to its opening next summer.

"We are keen local history groups such as the Friends of Dudley Archives get involved with our service and make use of the new centre's superb facilities."

The centre is being built by Midland's contractor G F Tomlinson and is being part funded by the European Regional Development Fund, as part of the wider redevelopment of the Castle Hill area of Dudley.

Dudley Council's archives service will relocate from Mount Pleasant, Coseley, and when the new building opens it will also be used to store documents for neighbouring Sandwell Council.

Boys stole to buy drug

THREE young foster children stole two televisions from their children's home so they could buy cannabis, a court heard.

One boy aged 16 and two aged 17 made off with the televisions, worth £400, after distracting staff at the home on October 23.

Dudley Youth Court heard they were seen walking down the road with them. By the time they were caught, one sets had already been sold – for £30 so that the boys could buy drugs.

All three were given to youth rehabilitation and supervision order and told to each pay £50 costs.

Takeaway plan

PLANS to turn a Dudley shop into a hot food takeaway have been lodged with council chiefs. The proposals for the property in Wolverhampton Street have been submitted by Mohammed Saheed, of Kingswinford.

Superhead faces life ban from classroom

Dame Mo Brennan

A SUPERHEAD could be banned from teaching for life following a disciplinary panel ruling over her time at Hillcrest School, Netherton.

Dame Mo Brennan, who is now headteacher at Barr Beacon School, Aldridge, was found guilty at a hearing last week of unacceptable professional conduct, along with colleagues Shelley Derham and Linda Westwood.

She was awarded the title of dame in 2005 for her work in transforming the failing Hillcrest. Ofsted inspectors later classed it "outstanding".

The Teaching Agency's professional conduct panel heard that "inappropriate alterations" were made to attendance registers for some pupils at Hillcrest between 2004 and 2007.

Panel members will make a recommendation to the Educatino Secretary, who will decide whether all three teachers are banned. A prohibition order could be imposed within two weeks, enforcing either a lifetime ban or a ban which could be reviewed in the future.

Marked

Some disruptive pupils were told to stay at home ahead of GCSE exams instead of being permanently excluded, the hearing was told, but they were marked in records as being "educated off site" or on "study leave" to give an authorised absence. Dame Mo said the practice would mean that pupil records would not be stained as they tried to get a job or college place.

The disciplinary panel ruled that the three teachers, all of whom now work at Barr Beacon, had acted "dishonestly".

The panel was due to hear mitigation before a decision on action is made.

Governors at Aldridge have back Dame Mo.

Council looks to get views over increase in council tax

FAMILIES in Dudley are being asked to choose between three proposed rises in council tax ranging from 43p to £1 a week as part of the borough council's biggest consultation in its history.

by Heather Large

The authority is aiming to find out whether people in the borough would be willing to pay extra council tax in order to reduce cuts in services. Dudley Council says if council tax does not go up, it will be have to slash £29 million from its budgets over the next three years.

A consultation has now been launched to gauge the views of residents.

People will be given options of whether they would prefer a weekly rise of 43p – two per cent, 75p – 3.5 per cent, or £1 – 4.6 per cent.

Residents will also be asked to say which services they most want to protect, including refuse and recycling collections, child protection, older people's services, regeneration and job creation.

Councillor Pete Lowe, cabinet member for finance, said: "This consultation is about listening to local people and we hope thousands of residents will take up the opportunity.

"This will help us make some big decisions about council services and establish the priorities which are most important to residents.

"Dudley, like other councils, is facing unprecedented budget pressures and needs to make some really tough decisions.

"Dudley Council delivers more than 800 services to local people and the scale of the choice and the tough decisions before us cannot be underestimated.

"We feel it's vital to embark on a widespread public consultation and listen carefully to our residents' views."

The authority says Dudley's council tax is £14 per month less than the national average.

People will be able to complete the survey in a variety of ways.

It will be included on leaflets in key council buildings such as libraries, leisure centres and Dudley Council Plus and will also be available online.

The consultation will run to the end of February.

Student work advice

STUDENTS should further their education and seek work experience to help boost the region's economy, according to two MPs.

Dudley MP Ian Austin and Wolverhampton South East's Pat McFadden appeared at a meeting at Dudley College to discuss youth unemployment. Along with other political figures and representatives from workers' and student unions, the pair discussed ways of helping young people through the current economic times. Mr Austin urged students to increase their skills by staying in education, while Mr McFadden talked about the benefits of a work experience for young people and businesses. The summit was organised by Trade Union Congress.

Angus McMeeking, of Black Country Ales, with Dudley South MP Chris Kelly

MP takes a tour of brewery

DUDLEY South MP Chris Kelly was taken on a tour of a micro-brewery which is going from strength to strength.

He visited Black Country Ales at the Old Bulls Head pub in Lower Gornal.

The firm supplies beer to its own pubs and other outlets across the region.

Mr Kelly was shown the brewing process and some of the equipment used including fermenting vessels which date back 100 years.

He said: "It has been very interesting to see the process in action here in the Black Country and see traditional brewing methods being used alongside modern ones.

"The BFG ale is a very big seller. It's good to see a local micro-brewery doing so well." Black Country Ales recently opened, bought and refurbished its 28th pub, The Cottage Spring, in Woodsetton.

Mr McMeeking attributes the company's success with the growing popularity of real ale. He also talked to the MP about the campaign to scrap the beer duty escalator.

"Whilst Black Country Ales is acquiring pubs, pubs across the region are closing at the rate of 16 a week, every week.

Mr Kelly said he would be passing on Mr McMeeking's concerns to the minister.

NEWS in brief

Festive safety scheme launched

A CAMPAIGN aimed at helping people in Dudley to stay safe in the run up to Christmas Day has been launched.

Dudley's community safety partnership has launched its 12 safer days of Christmas campaign, which gives residents advice. Tips range from party safety, getting home safely, not drinking and driving to ways to secure homes, valuables and cars.

Councillor Judy Foster said: "This campaign gives 12 really simple pieces of safety advice that if they followed could make a big difference."

Diabetics urged to have flu jab

HEALTH officials in Dudley are urging people with diabetes to protect themselves by getting their seasonal flu vaccination as soon as possible.

Clinics are under way in GP surgeries and people with diabetes, along with those aged over 65 and pregnant women, are among the priority groups for free jabs. Dr David Hegarty, chairman of Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "People should not underestimate the effects of seasonal flu."

Woman is facing charges of fraud

A WOMAN accused of failing to declare that she was working while claiming benefits denied the charges when she appeared at Dudley Magistrates Court.

Tanya Grey, aged 24, of Copse Road, Dudley, appeared in court last week on two charges, dating from November 2010 and this September . The case will be re-called on December 11 when a date will be set for her trial.

Council to pick up tax shortfall

DUDLEY Council will pick up the cost of central government's reduction in council tax rebate.

The Government is reducing the subsidy for councils to administer council tax rebates leaving Dudley facing a £2.4 million shortfall. The cost will be absorbed in the council budget meaning no change for residents.

Pest control up

MORE pest controllers will be available to tackle mice and rat infestations across Dudley borough. The service was cut two but now the council plans to spend £100,000 recruiting two more

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NEWS

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

WONDERFUL line from Derek Jacobi as the Yorkshire pensioner in Last Tango in Halifax (BBC1). He runs a finger along the lines of boys in his old school photograph muttering: "He's dead, he's dead." And then he lowers his voice because what's coming next is even worse than death: "He went down South."

❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑

A TALE of tatters. News reaches me of a lady whose washing machine and tumble dryer gave up the ghost at the same time. The repair man explained it would cost him at least £40 to dispose of them. The alternative, he suggested, was to leave the appliances on the drive in the hope that the scrap-metal men would take them overnight. The lady declared sniffily that it was not that sort of neighbourhood but agreed to go along with the plan. So the repair man heaved the washing machine out of the house and on to the drive and went back inside for the dryer. By the time he came out with the tumble dryer a few minutes later, the washing machine had gone.

❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑

AM I the only male who sniggers at the opening of the Marks & Spencer Christmas TV advert? It's the one where four women throw two snowballs each at the camera, and not one of them manages to hit it. Snowballs - it's a bloke thing.

❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑

A NOTE in the windscreen of an abandoned car at our local ford read: "Broke down due to flood". Or possibly due to idiot.

❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑

IMPERTINENCE is a word you rarely hear these days. It went with the age of deference. It's the sort of word the dowager countess (Maggie Smith) would use in Downton Abbey if a chambermaid spoke without being spoken to. We heard it a few days ago when Philip Davies MP dared to ask His Imperial Serenity Milord Patten whether he might consider keeping a record to show exactly how much work he does for his £110,000 a year as chairman of the BBC Trust. It seems a modest request. It is, after all, what every employee of the BBC and in every other workplace is expected to do. But Lord Patten who is responsible for overseeing a Corporation which gets £4,000 million a year from the licence payers, was clearly horrified. He delivered the line: "I think that's a thoroughly impertinent question" with a blend of bewilderment and fury that even Dame Maggie would envy. Prove that one is working? The very idea.

❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑

I SUGGESTED Scotland might one day sue England for 40 years of not giving Scotland a fair share of North Sea oil and gas revenues. A reader thunders: "What about suing the Scots for the cost of building Hadrian's Wall to keep them out?" Calm down, lads. It's only a referendum.

❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑

STILL in Scotland, the authorities are searching for a name for the new Forth Road Bridge which is currently known by the rather drab name of the Forth Replacement Crossing. A reader points out that as the Forth already has four major crossings, this new one could be called the Fifth Forth Bridge, or even the Forth Fifth Bridge. I find myself reminded of that great Scottish football score: East Fife four, Forfar five.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

No goodwill as festive market backed

COUNCILLORS have struck a compromise over controversial plans for a Christmas market in Halesowen, which sparked protest from other traders in the town.

But Halesowen Chamber of Trade and the town's Cornbow Centre were still not happy after Dudley licensing sub committee decided to let the festive market go ahead for only two days, rather than the whole of the week leading up to Christmas.

L:ast week's sub committee heard complaints the stalls would deprive shops of income.

Members gave the go-ahead for the farmers and craft market to open only on the Friday and Saturday, December 21 and 22 – but not on December 18, 19 and 20. But the chamber's chairmansaid shopkeepers would still not be content.

Bescot Promotions, which runs Halesowen markets on the second, fourth and fifth Saturday of each month, had hoped to hold a special one for five days from December 18 to 22. But there were fears it would take trade away from shops during the best trading week of the year.

Chamber chairman Steve Fitzpatrick told the sub-committee: "The shops don't need to have the market – they need to survive in Halesowen town centre."

Eve O'Connor, manager of the Cornbow shopping centre, said WHSmith's frontage was "completely obliterated" by the market, and trade was down on the days the stalls were there.

Bescot managing director Steve Evans said Warwick Butchers, Thorntons, a cafe and a hairdressers' had told him market days boosted their trade. "If a Christmas market came to Halesowen everyone would benefit," he said.

Cost-cutting means 26 museum staff to leave

TWENTY-SIX workers are leaving the Black Country Living Museum through redundancy as part of cost-cutting plans. It follows a 11-week consultation with staff since it was announced that up to 70 jobs were at risk.

A drop in visitor numbers and funding cuts have left the tourist attraction needing to save £250,000 a year.

Chief executive Andrew Lovett confirmed 22 staff had opted to leave through voluntary redundancy.

But the museum has also been forced to make four compulsory redundancies.

The voluntary redundancies included some of the costumed demonstrators

Meanwhile ,36 of the costumed guides have been given new roles as costumed learning assistants as part of plans to revamp the attraction's educational services.

The majority of the remaining guides will work as casual demonstrators.

Avoiding

Mr Lovett said: "An 11-week period of consultation with museum staff is drawing to a close, and has involved almost 280 individual and group consultation meetings, in order to adapt the museum's operations and management to reduce costs and improve the quality of engagement with educational groups.

"At the beginning of the consultation 155 staff were identified as being 'at risk' of redundancy and much of the consultation has been focused on avoiding compulsory redundancies.

"Twenty six staff have now left or are about to leave the museum due to the restructuring; 22 through voluntary redundancy, with four leaving due to compulsory redundancy."

In September, it was revealed the museum would close twice a week between November and Easter to

Police job failure led to suicide

A TAXI driver from Dudley killed himself after failing to land his dream job as a policeman, an inquest has heard.

Thomas Spair, aged 23, of Poplar Green, was found hanged from a tree near Wrens Hill Road.

Police officers attempt to revive him, but paramedics pronounced him dead at the scene on March 8.

The inquest held at Dudley Coroners' Court last week, heard evidence from his mother Jennifer Wright.

She said: "He wanted to be a policeman, but kept failing the tests and that did depress him."

The hearing heard he had suffered a mental depressive episode two years ago, but had later stopped taking prescribed medication.

Black Country Coroner Robin Balmain recorded a verdict of suicide. He said: "This is a very sad, he was a young man who had a lot going for him."

Christmas cafe

A CHRISTMAS market featuring homemade festive cards, jewellery, cakes and more will be held this weekend at Wombourne's Railway Cafe. It's free admission at the Bratch Lane venue from 10am to 4pm. Santa will be putting in an appearance on both days.

All-out effort raises £1,500

Fundraising triathlon competitors Edward Walker, left, and Harry Browne with Jackie Tromans, a member of the Thomas Pocklington Trust

TWO teenagers tested their mettle in a triathlon to raise money for charity.

Edward Walker and Harry Browne, pupils at Old Swinford Hospital , generated £1,500 for the Thomas Pocklington Trust.

The pair, both aged 17, entered the the Warwickshire Triathlon which comprises a 400m swim, 23km cycle and a 5km run. They finished in times of 1hr 19min and 1hr 25min respectively.

It is held in Stratford-upon-Avon and was aimed at all abilities and fitness levels, in aid of the trust, which helps people who are blind or have sight loss.

Edward said: "During the summer holidays we decided to set ourselves the challenge of completing a triathlon and make it more worthwhile by raising money for charity. We chose the Pocklington Trust as we have entertained the residents at the Stourbridge centre with the Old Swinford Hospital music groups."

Plans for future of town get approval

PLANS to make the most out of Halesowen have been approved by Dudley Borough Council.

The Halesowen Area Action Plan was drawn up earlier this year to guide new investment and pinpoint places for new shops, homes and leisure developments.

Councillor Ken Turner said of the plan: "It's an opportunity to herald Dudley borough to the world.

"People coming from the south of the borough first meet Halesowen so we need to be ambitious and determined in what we're offering. We can't pussyfoot around."

The plan found there were too many car parking spaces and suggested some could be removed to make way for shops and businesses.

Councillor Turner added: "You could attract a departmental store maybe or a quality supermarket or even a distribution centre with the roads infrastructure that is already there."

One site suggested was Trinity Point office block and the High Street car park. Council bosses also want more people to live in the town centre.

The plan was accepted by the full council and it is hoped it will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate

Rare coins go on show

A COLLECTION of more than 3,000 Roman coins will go on display for the first time at Worcestershire County Museum, Hartlebury, near Kidderminster next year.

Museum bosses have raised enough money to acquire the coins, which date from between 244 AD and 282 AD, and keep them in the county. The coin collection, known as the Worcestershire Hoard, was discovered by metal detecting enthusiasts in the Vale of Evesham on Bredon Hill.

Driver cut free

A MOTORIST was cut free from a car after a crash on the border of Dudley and Wolverhampton. The two-car accident happened at the junction of Hurst Road and Childs Avenue, Coseley, last Tuesday evening. Police said nobody was seriously hurt.

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Wedding blamed for road offences

A MAN caught speeding in the Halesowen with no insurance has told magistrates it was because of his approaching wedding.

Steven Hunt, of Wallows Road, Brierley Hill, was due to get married on August 10 but, in the week before that, he was caught twice by police for driving offences on the same road.

And it has cost him more than £800.

On August 4, he was caught driving at 43mph on the 30mph-limit Huntingtree Road and with no insurance.

Three days later he was caught driving with no licence and no insurance.

The 27-year-old told Dudley Magistrates' Court: "I was getting married on August 10 and everything slipped my mind.

"I was due to renew my insurance earlier that month but I was under stress with the wedding and forgot."

Pleading guilty to all charges, he told the court he worked as a plasterer and, along with his teacher wife, supported two children.

He was fined £400 for the first offences and a further £320 for the second day's and also ordered to pay £100 towards prosecution costs and a £15 victim surcharge.

A photo call for wildlife

PHOTOGRAPHERS are being invited to enter an annual competition to raise funds for wildlife.

The Worcestershire Wildlife Trust is looking for photos of our countryside and wildlife. Winning entries will feature in the trust's 2014 calendar. Trust spokesman Wendy Carter said: "We usually get 150-200 photographs entered but we're hoping for many more this year."

The competition is normally for photos taken on one of the trust's nature reserves. This time it is is looking for images from across the county. The closing date is April 22. Entry forms are at worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/photography-competition

Kit helper call

HALESOWEN Town Football Club wants a matchday kitman or woman. Email info@ht-fc.com for details.

Lamped! Rude yob comes a cropper on camera

The yob makes an abusive hand gesture at the camera

He is so transfixed he fails to notice the lamp-post

Bang – the man smashes straight into the lamp-post

A RUDE yob was left red-faced after he directed abusive hand gestures at a CCTV camera in the Dudley – and then walked straight into a lamp-post.

The man was in High Street when he spotted the camera and began aiming insults towards the lens.

But while he was focusing on abusing the camera operator, he didn't notice a lamp-post in his path and seconds later he slammed straight into it. Sgt Rob Simpson, from Dudley Police Station, described it as "swift divine intervention".

He said: "Camera operators are here with the sole aim of keeping our communities safe and monitoring suspicious behaviour they don't deserve abuse. We have 177 CCTV cameras across the borough of Dudley; many, like this one.

"They are all overt, none are hidden, but at the same time they are not intrusive. The vast, vast majority of people go about their daily business oblivious of the cameras. It is only people who are concerned about their behaviour or up to no good that seem to be conscious of them."

It is not known if the man in the footage was injured. He strikes the post with his forehead and eye before walking on.

Recently CCTV cameras picked up footage of a break-in at Dudley bus depot. Officers quickly arrested a man on suspicion of burglary and also alerted police to a suspicious man at a disorder who was later found with a knuckleduster.

Gillian Davenport, Partnerships Inspector at Dudley Police, said: "I'm in no doubt CCTV cameras are making a significant contribution towards reducing crime and anti-social behaviour in Dudley."

CCTV centre puts police in the picture 24 hours a day

WITH almost 200 CCTV screens from cameras that record 24 hours a day, seven days a week, this is the unit that tracks the movements of crime suspects in Dudley borough.

The Chronicle was given a behind-the-scenes look in the camera room in Dudley, which has been instrumental in finding missing children, catching criminals and identifying troublemakers.

Councils across Wolverhampton, Walsall and Sandwell also have similar units on their patches.

Staff on the unit link-in with police and security guards across the Dudley borough to alert them to incidents as they happen.

And within an hour of being in the unit, the advantages of the 177 cameras, which are of such high quality that they can read a tax disc on a car from 200 yards, are clear.

One man was detained by security staff in Stourbridge bus station just 90 seconds after allegedly stealing goods from a nearby store.

Traced

Meanwhile in Dudley, a man was arrested in Churchill Precinct after someone was spotted loading £95 worth of chocolate into a shopping basket and making off.

Elsewhere, a woman was assaulted by a female customer in Dudley's Iceland store. CCTV operators were able to find the suspected attacker and traced her to nearby Birmingham Street, where she was arrested on suspicion of assault.

And during the early hours of Tuesday, a man was arrested and charged after he was caught on camera allegedly breaking into a staff room at Dudley bus station.

Sgt Rob Simpson said having links to the unit, which is run and maintained by Dudley Borough Council, was vital.

"The cameras are invaluable," he said. "If you take the example of a missing child, you can flood an area the child was last seen with officers but camera can search that area much more quickly."

The camera room in Dudley which has been instrumental in everything from finding missing children to catching criminals

"The cameras are not hidden so people can see where they are.

"It isn't about watching people, the cameras are there for the prevention of crime."

Experts say the cameras have played an integral part in fighting crime, including help track people who caused trouble during the English Defence League protest in Dudley in 2010.

Detectives were able to review the footage after the violence and identify those involved, pinpoint what they had done and then move to make arrests. CCTV operative Dave Sneyd, who has been in the job for 12 years, said as well as the serious side of his work, there are moments of humour.

"Christmas can provide entertaining CCTV viewing. I've seen tugs-of-war over presents and a man's wig was pulled off in one scuffle," he said. "One man walked into a speed camera along the Stourbridge Ring Road and knocked himself. That was serious because he had fallen and his head was on the road, so we quickly got someone down there to help him."

The emergence of digital technology has helped improve the quality of CCTV over the past five years. Previously, footage was recorded on VCR with a tape-change every 12 hours meaning. footage of a particular incident could not be looked at until the 12-hour loop was complete.

But now, footage is recorded digitally, so officers can review it immediately.

Sgt Simpson said the quality of footage had also improved dramatically making it difficult for offenders to wriggle out of crimes when the evidence was put in front of them.

CCTV manager Julie Jones added: "A picture speaks a thousand words."

NEWS in brief

Donation stall is helping carers

SAINSBURY'S at Amblecote is launching an appeal for soft toys, books and other toys to help raise cash for its chosen charity.

The goods will be displayed on a stand called Teddy Towers and sold for a small donation to INSIGHT for Carers, based in Pearson Street, Brierley Hill. Since its launch in June, the stall has contributed £600.

Restaurant manager, Chris Holloway, said: "The scheme has proved really popular and gives people a chance to recycle unwanted goods."

Appeal for coins cash a success

AN APPEAL to raise enough money to keep a collection of Roman coins in Worcestershire has been successful. The county council wants the Worcestershire Hoard to go on display at County Museum at Hartlebury.

It has been raising money to acquire the 3,874 coins. More than £4,500 was raised by private donations and Worcestershire Archaeological Society donated more than £1,000.

Retired cleaner took overdose

A RETIRED cleaner from Dudley died after an overdose of medication for her arthritis, an inquest heard. Pamela Ball, aged 72, of Merryfield Road, died of a cardiac arrest at her home on April 12.

Recording a narrative verdict at Dudley Coroners' Court last week, Coroner Mr Robin Balmain said: "Her death was due to self-administered effect of prescribed medication."

Reading group's volunteers call

A CHARITY which helps children with their reading is seeking more volunteers.

Volunteer Reading Help needs people to help children in all areas of the Black Country, including Dudley. For more information call the charity's volunteer services manager Amanda Green on 07841 504 419.

Get on your bike

A NEW series of cycle rides will start this month around Dudley run by Age UK Dudley's Get Cycling for 50 Plus programme. Visit www.ageuk dudley.org.uk for the list.

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NEWS

Traffic pollution at root of poor air quality fears

TRAFFIC congestion around Dudley has been blamed for poor air quality by campaigners demanding action over the problem.

A report looking into congested routes around Dudley is being drawn up to tackle pollution hotspots.

People in Netherton have grown increasingly concerned about traffic jams with vehicles pumping out exhaust fumes. Cars queuing along the main Halesowen Road through the town and at the Cinder Bank island are among the problem areas.

Netherton is one of a number of places being analysed. Others include the busy A491 through Wordsley and Kingswinford.

Councillor Qadar Zada took the issue up with Dudley Council environment chief, Councillor Tracey Wood.

"I've been talking about Netherton air quality since my election and I want to be sure there is some improvement since we started these discussions with the council," he said.

"We have supported actions in the town to reduce traffic which appears to be a contributor."

"A report on air quality is due early next year and I will be looking forward to the report with interest to see what the impact has been. If there isn't any improvement I will be expecting stronger action."

Councillor Wood said improvements to air quality throughout the borough remained a key priority.

The council has an air quality action plan with the progress reported every year to the Environmental Scrutiny Committee.

Women's choir at hall

A DUDLEY women's choir is staging a Christmas concert next week.

The Ellenvale Singers will be performing at Brierley Hill Civic Hall on December 12 starting from 7.30pm with a mix of music.

Tickets are £7.50 for adults and £3.50 for children. Call 01902 674831 for more details.

Hair's to you Nathan

Nathan Gill, aged eight, is supporting Birmingham Children's Hospital

A DUDLEY schoolboy has said goodbye to his shoulder-length hair to raise money for Birmingham Children's Hospital.

Eight-year-old Nathan Gill from Brierley Hill had his dark blond locks shaved for the Super Santa fundraising appeal. The youngster, who goes to Withymoor Primary School has so far raised £50 for the charity after generous friends and family supported his efforts.

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LETTERS

Back Hippodrome, stop the rot

SO, we see that Dudley Hippodrome has finally some support! The Theatres Trust says the Hippodrome should be kept for future generations and they have seen a lot of listed buildings in a worse state.

Yet again, Dudley Council showing no signs of support for Dudley nor for its heritage. I am utterly ashamed of them and the way they have let Dudley centre rot and they continue to do so.

They keep talking all this nonsense about regeneration, yet they still allow tatty shops in and places of to be proud of ie the Hippodrome out.

We have such a wonderful history and slowly we are losing that identity. All down to Dudley Council, AGAIN!

Dudley Zoo want it for a car park, yet there is ample parking close by that looks like a building site that could be used and The Black Country Living Museum has no interest in helping either!

Easy answers really, both are probably concerned that if the Hippodrome is restored to its former glory they, will surely lose out on takings.

Has nobody even considered amalgamating all three together? The entertainments group Merlins links all major UK attractions together under one brand – Sea life, Alton Towers, Lego Land and Warwick Castle to name a few. Is this not something can be done? All three working together, getting Dudley back on track? One town, three major attractions!

Castle Hill has been the big selling point for regeneration but what do we have there to encourage visitors? McDonald's, Nandos, cinema, more restaurants, a pub, a hotel and some offices. Wow! Get me a day saver so I can stay in Dudley all day.

MATTHEW POUND
Camberley Crescent
Ettingshall Park

Thank you for towing kindness

I TOOK my mother to Col's car boot sale, Wall Heath, last Wednesday and we had a pleasant morning there.

Unfortunately, on attempting to leave my car became stuck in the churned-up mud. Try as I might, I couldn't get the car out and was desperate when I realised I didn't have my mobile phone with me. I tried putting mum's blanket under the wheel and paper and car mat but still it refused to budge. Several cars passed by then, after nearly 30 minutes of trying my knight in shining armour came by. He stopped, and offered to tow me out of the mud. What a gentleman!

I would just like to thank this kind gent for his kindness. I offered him money but he refused saying that his Range Rover was his "baby". I am 71 and my mother 92. Thank goodness for 4 x 4 vehicles and someone who was concerned for another's welfare.

MRS JEAN GREENHALL
Denleigh Road
Kingswinford

LETTERS to the Editor

POST
Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

E-MAIL
Dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Turn grass verges into parking space

FOLLOWING the recent statement by Dudley Council that spending cuts necessitate some services including roadside grass cutting are to be decreased, it would be a good time to consider replacing grass verges with parking bays.

This would be especially beneficial in roads that contain blocks of two or three storey flats that have no allocated parking spaces, even more so, as in the road that I live, you have semi-detached houses one side and three storey flats opposite. The majority of residents living in the houses have gone to the expense of having off road parking facilities constructed on their own property and have paid Dudley Council a considerable sum to have the kerbs dropped (a legal requirement). The fact that there are no dropped kerbs outside the flats, the residents that can, park kerbside in the road and the remainder make use of our dropped kerbs and park on the pavement.

Now the residents in the houses suffer from cars being parked on the pavements outside their homes, restricting access to their property and causing inconvenience to pedestrians, especially parents with children in pushchairs and the less able in wheelchairs or mobility scooters.

JOHN H LONG, Regent Street, Dudley

Cafe culture gone mad

NEVER mind all the empty shops in Dudley Town Centre and surroundings, what about all the takeaways, coffee shops and fast food outlets that are springing up week by week?

I was led to understand the building on the corner of Priory Street/New Street was being done up for a restaurant, and then suddenly after this renovation seems to be complete but still vacant, comes news the Carvers old cafe in Priory Street is still on the cards. Has Dudley Council gone cafe culture mad?

MRS L SHELDON
The Broadway
Dudley

So-low comment

WHILE the Peter Rhodes column is sometimes witty, sometimes controversial and often pure self-indulgent, the item on the social workers of Rotherham reached the lowest level of newspaper comment possible. Bigoted and smug are not terms that can be arbitrarily used in a case that has not yet been fully analysed.

KEITH NICHOLLS
Brook Street
Woodsetton

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NEWS

£2.6m bid to restore park gates will be sent

A BID for £2.6 million of lottery cash to revamp a Stourbridge park and restore its historic gates will be lodged in February. The council is working on a second application for a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

by Heather Large

The main Grade II listed gates at Mary Stevens Park are in urgent need of restoration with brick and ironwork showing signs of decay.

The council was awarded an initial grant of £116,000 to develop its proposals further ahead of submitting the second round application.

A report by council chief executive, John Polychronakis, said: "Using this HLF grant of £116,000 the council is now developing detailed designs and documentation for the submission of a second round application.

"The estimated value of this second round bid is £2,671,000 and at this stage the anticipated HLF contribution would be £2,156,000."

The council would make up the shortfall with cash already put aside for the work.

A decision on the application is expected to be made by lottery chiefs by June next year.

Other priorities include the restoration of the war memorial and works to the pool and entrance gates around the park.

Any remaining funding could be used to open a cafe or refreshment kiosk.

Residents were consulted on the plans in the summer.

As part of the plans, the council has been gathering information and checking on animals inhabiting the park.

A protected species survey will give additional insight into animals living in the park to make sure the proposals don't have an adverse impact on them.

Sky-bound Tardis to raise charity funds

With the mini Tardis is organiser Karl Jones

ONE of the world's most famous science fiction television series props will be spinning its way into the skies again –albeit a miniature version. The Dr Who Tardis is to be sent on a mission into the sky to raise money for CLIC Sargent, the children's cancer charity.

A little camera will be attached to the Tardis which, in turn, is attached to a helium balloon. The camera will take photos of the Tardis' trip. Organiser Karl Jones, of Western Road, Stourbridge, said: "To send the Tardis and video camera to the edge of space we'll use a helium filled weather balloon. As the balloon climbs, the air pressure gets lower and the balloon expands until it gets so big it bursts."

Parachute

The community children's nurse said this should happen at about 32,000 metres. Once the balloon has burst the three-inch-high plastic Tardis and camera will fall back to earth supported by a home-made parachute.

The 48-year-old and his helpers will then track it down using a GPS tracker. The launch is planned for Saturday8 but it will depend on weather. He said the team had already launched the Tardis once before – in Shropshire in August.

He added: "It worked well but we thought we could do better. We also saw the potential to raise some money for charity and we chose CLIC Sargent."

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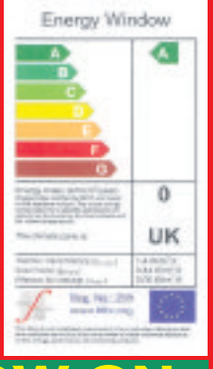

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NEWS

Taxi-ban Jack, 104, kept waiting in A&E 12 hours

Jack Jones – upset over his long wait at Russells Hall Hospital

A 104-YEAR-OLD man was left waiting for 12 hours for a lift home from Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital because staff refused to let him call a taxi, over health and safety fears.

NHS chiefs have now apologised to Jack Jones, who was told he would have to wait for an ambulance to take him home after he was discharged from following a fall.

He was left waiting in the accident and emergency department until he was finally driven six miles to the sheltered housing complex in Stourbridge where he lives.

Mr Jones, who built Spitfire fighter planes at Longbridge in Birmingham, during the Second World War, was admitted to Russells Hall Hospital at 8am on October 26.

He was examined and after he was given the all clear he was told he could go but he did not arrive home until 10pm that night.

Upset

He was told by medical staff that it was against the hospital's policy to let elderly patients go home on their own.

Mr Jones, whose wife Winifred died in 1990 aged 81, said: "I was very upset that I was left waiting for so long for a lift home.

"I told the hospital staff that I use a taxi driver who knows me and would help me to my front door but they refused.

"It was a very long day considering how close it was to my home."

The Dudley Group of Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, which runs the hospital, has apologised for the delay and promised to prioritise elderly patients in the future.

Chief executive Paula Clark said: "We are extremely sorry Mr Jones experienced such a significant wait for his transport home and apologise for this.

"Following meetings between all parties changes have been instigated including temporary investment in an additional crew."

No-insurance crash driver fined

A YOUNG man who crashed his car into a telegraph pole while driving without insurance has been fined.

Philip Burbidge, aged 20, had been driving his VW Passat along Whitegates Road, Coseley, when he smashed into the pole on October 30.

Burbidge, of Yorkdale Close, Dudley, then approached the officer who had been called to the scene and admitted to being the driver and only having a provisional licence. Police later found he also had no insurance, Mr Barry Sealeaf, prosecuting, said.

Burbidge pleaded guilty to driving without insurance and not in accordance with his licence when he appeared at Dudley Magistrates' Court last week.

He was fined £110 for no insurance and told to £80 £80 and a £20 surcharge.

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NEWS

Community hall revamp is speeding along now

WORK has started on a £900,000 revamp of a community hall in Bewdley. Contractors have been appointed to renovate St George's Hall in Load Street and hoardings are up at the site.

by Heather Large

Bewdley Development Trust, which is behind the scheme, has been given a deadline of May to get the work completed as part of the terms of a funding agreement with the Department for the Environment.

The first phase will see an existing extension at the building torn down.

A three-storey one would be built to expand space inside the hall, which will be refurbished to provide a cafe, toilets and meeting rooms.

Bosses also want to create smaller rooms which can be hired out to local organisations to generate funds for the running costs of the hall and future renovation work.

They are hoping to create a balcony to boost the capacity of the hall to 250 seats, but, at the moment, this hinges on additional funding from Defra.

They announced that work was getting started at a public meeting at Bewdley Baptist Church last week.

Director of Bewdley Development Trust, John Iles, said: "We've gone from nothing happening to having to move very quickly which is why when the contract was signed with the contractors, they were on site the same day.

"It is great to be finally starting work. Now we want to know what the people of Bewdley would like St George's Hall to offer or be used for."

Wyre Forest MP Mark Garnier has welcomed the start of work, saying: "The new community hub facility will provide a fantastic local boost to Bewdley town centre. Its refurbished design will offer flexibility.

"This project has been driven by local support, showing that growth is most effective when community

There's no need to fret over festivities

Danielle Saxon Reeves gets ready for the show

BANJO, mandolin and guitar players will be taking part in a Christmas showcase in Stourbridge on Saturday. The Midlands Fretted Orchestra will take to the stage at The Bonded Warehouse, Canal Street. The musicians are promising festive favourites alongside traditional carols.

Director Danielle Saxon Reeves, from Stourbridge, said: "The evening promises a host of seasonal favourites including music by Prokofiev and Corelli, as well as Christmas carols and favourite festive sing-alongs, and will this year also feature a local community choir."

Old toys and books plea

AN appeal has been launched for old toys and books to help raise money for a Brierley Hill charity.

Staff at Sainsbury's, Amblecote have kickstarted the fundraising drive to boost volunteers at Insight for Carers.

Insight in Pearson Street, offers a range of carers support services across in the region.

Donated goods will be displayed on a stand called Teddy Towers where they will be sold for the charity.

For a full list of Insight's services visit www.insightforcar-

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NHS

MP welcomes £1.8m for weekly bin collections

THE successful £1.8 million bid by Dudley Council for funding to support weekly bin collections and recycling has been welcomed by MP Chris Kelly.

The Dudley South Tory MP said it was "great news".

The local authority is one of 85 around the country which have had their application for the cash approved by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

Mr Kelly said: "This is great news for council tax payers and residents in the Dudley borough, as well as for local schools. It is good to see Whitehall recognising the importance of Dudley's weekly bin collections and helping us to recycle more." Bosses plan to use the money on extra vehicles, boxes, bags and staff in order to roll out the plastic bottle and cardboard recycling trial to all households in the borough.

The trial, which runs at 11,000 households, has an average take-up rate of 83 per cent and has resulted in a 68 per cent rise in the amount of material collected.

The funding will also enable the council to continue its weekly household waste collection service for at least another five years, to provide recycling collections for schools and to look at ways of encouraging residents to recycle more. The expanded recycling collection schemes will be rolled out from next spring.

Family tributes to Sam

THE heartbroken family of a man from Kidderminster who died in a car crash days before his 20th birthday have paid tribute to him as a great fun-loving son.

Sam Cook, aged 19

Sam Cook was always cracking jokes with friends and was devoted to his girlfriend Holly Tustin, his family said. He was a front seat passenger in a Vauxhall Corsa which left the road.

The car then hit a hedge in the accident on November 21 and Mr Cook, of Hawfinch Rise, died of multiple injuries.

His mother Georgie Branford, 44, and 17-year-old girlfriend Holly said they had been comforted by well-wishers paying respects. The young couple had been together for two and a half years after meeting through friends.

Mr Cook, a former King Charles I School pupil, was described as a great son who lived for his friends and loved his girlfriend dearly.

"If anyone was down, he would be able to pick them up straight away – that was the sort of person he was," said Mrs Branford.

Future

"He loved Holly very much, and they had often joked about the future and getting married and having children."

Mr Cook worked in the bakery at Sainsbury's in Kidderminster and was a keen Manchester United fan.

The crash happened on the A448 at Stone, near Kidderminster. "It all feels like a dream at the moment, I can't believe it has happened," Mrs Branford added.

An inquest has been adjourned.

Council in reminder

RESIDENTS in Dudley borough are being reminded about a change to rubbish collections over the festive season.

Households will be able to leave two extra bags of rubbish for bin men.

Details are outlined in a leaflet which will be delivered to homes.

Dudley Council will collect two additional black bags between December 27 and January 8.

Any households putting out more than an additional two bags on top of their normal allowance will not have the extra bags collected.

Crowds turn out to town switch-ons

Festive fun – the mayor of Dudley Melvyn Mottram is joined by members of the community switching on the Christmas lights in Stourbridge

THOUSANDS of people braved the cold to celebrate the start of the festive season in two more towns.

There was entertainment laid on for all the family at two Christmas light switch-on events in Stourbridge and Bewdley at the weekend.

In Stourbridge, there was live music from Churches for You Choir, Stagecoach Theatre Group and the B CUPS Ukulele Band.

Organisers also put on children's amusements and extended the farmers' market for the event. Dudley mayor Councillor Melvyn Mottram switched on the lights.

In Bewdley, Father Christmas led a procession through the town toward the Guildhall for the switch-on by town mayor John Latham. Along the way were fairground rides, carol singing and street entertainments.

Around 70 market stalls were also set up along the riverside. The event was organised by the Bewdley Christmas Lights Festival Committee.

Chairman and former town trader Maggie Galloway said: "Again, this year we had a very good number, which was pleasing considering the cold weather.

"People seemed to enjoy the entertainment we laid out. We hope the traders also benefited as people shopped around the stalls."

Pest control service is in line for revamp

DUDLEY Borough Council is revamping its pest control service which will see it take on two more members of staff to tackle mice and rat infestations.

A council team responds to reports from residents and businesses about vermin as well as wasps and insects plaguing the borough.

But it was cut back earlier this year leaving two pest controllers.

Now the council plans to spend £100,000 a year re-establishing the service and recruiting two more pest controllers.

The proposals have been outlined in a report by cabinet member for the environment Councillor Tracy Wood, who said the current staffing level was "inadequate".

Councillor Wood said improvements needed to be made to ensure the service could maintain "a reasonable response" to residents.

"The service has been in existence for many years as part of the council's public health function.

Further to budget decisions the service was reduced to a minimum level from April 2012, leaving just two pest control officers. Prior to this date the service experienced a progressive reduction in personnel as a consequence of budget reductions.

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Scouts joy as work gets underway on new HQ

SCOUTS have celebrated the start of work on a new £75,000 headquarters in Stourport ending a two-year bid for new premises.

Members of the Severn and Teme explorer Scout unit have been in temporary headquarters but has now agreed funding.

They had been based in a 75-year-old former indoor shooting range originally sited at RAF Hartlebury.

However, when RAF Hartlebury was decommissioned, the building was cut in half and moved to its current location.

But scouts have been meeting in the Old Barn, Dunley Road, Stourport, in recent months after the old building became dilapidated.

The group won planning permission for the new headquarters in 2004 and have been sourcing financing ever since. Severn and Teme Scout District covers Stourport, Bewdley, Tenbury Wells, Clifton upon Teme and Abberley and Witley.

Work has begun on the construction of a new headquarters with Stourport Town Mayor, Councillor Gary Talbot cutting the first sod.

The unit which is home to scouts aged 14 to 18 in the Bewdley, Stourport and Tenbury Wells area based at Stourport Memorial Park.

District Explorer Scout Leader, Mark Burford, said: "We are very pleased to be starting work on our new headquarters and this has been made possible by the help and support from a number of local groups, including the Town Council."

Mast given go-ahead

A 41ft phone mast will be installed near to the former Coseley Swimming Baths site after the controversial plans were given the go-ahead, despite objections.

The plans have been approved a year after original plans for a 49ft mast were thrown out by Dudley Council and a separate appeal dismissed by a planning inspector. Residents had objected to the latest plans by Vodafone and O2, saying the development would be another blow to the town following the closure of its swimming pool three years ago.

Councillor Susan Ridney, speaking on behalf of residents, told the committee: "Residents of the area are quite disturbed that this application has returned. While the height and diameter of the mast have been reduced this mast will still have an impact.

"The trees will help to camouflage the mast but there are no restrictions on those trees and, should they be removed, the mast will have a more prominent effect in the area."

Vodafone and O2 have said the phone mast is needed to boost phone coverage in the area. In a planning application the companies stated that without the mast, 2G coverage would be restricted and 3G coverage would be lost altogether.

The mast will be sited on the junction of Wallbrook Street, Old Meeting Road and Pear Tree Lane. Another possible site, the cricket club, was deemed too close to another phone mast. The actual site of the former swimming baths was also overlooked because it may be redeveloped in the future.

Because the plan is for a mast under 49ft, which is the height typically classed as permitted development, the planning committee members were only able to consider the location and appearance of the mast.

Residents had also written of their objections, with ten letters being received, most concerned about the damage the phone mast might do to the views of the area.

Committee chairman Rachel Harris said: "I feel, on balance, that it is not a suitable place for a mast."

Village raids link theory

JEWELLERY and goods worth around £2,300 have been stolen in two burglaries in two country villages.

Officers are investigating possible links between the raids, which happened in Blakedown and Chaddesley Corbett, near Kidderminster

The first happened in Belbroughton Road, Blakedown when jewellery worth around £1,500 was stolen.

In the second burglary, at about 1.15pm in Bluntington, Chaddesley Corbett, items taken included £300, £180 in Euros and a Lenovo laptop worth £400.

Demand sees show of fashion extended

Visitor services assistant Pippa Ashmore prepares one of the Georgian gowns for display at the museum

WIGS and waistcoats form the basis of an exhibition at Worcestershire County Museum at Hartlebury which has proved so popular staff have decided to extend its run.

The displays based on the elegant fashions and extravagant tastes of the Georgians was due to be taken down at the end of December but so many people have clamoured to see them that staff have agreed for them to stay until the end of February.

Original objects on display include the pelmet from a bed which was custom-made for Prince George's visit to Hartlebury Castle, part of which houses the museum.

For visitors there is the rare chance to see some of the older items in the Museum's impressive costume collection, dating from the 1760s to the 1780s, which are usually in store. These include brocade gowns and embroidered bodices, silk waistcoats and accessories.

High-speed rail link to capital welcome

WYRE Forest MP Mark Garnier and the district council leader councillor John Campion have backed the start of a new high-speed link from Kidderminster to London.

Chiltern Railways has announced it is introducing the "fastest ever" link to London from Kidderminster.

The new times have been welcomed by rail users in the area who say the local economy will be boosted.

Mr Garnier said: "Chiltern's new timetable is a welcome announcement. Shaving time off a journey to London is of significant importance.

"As a regular commuter to London I certainly look forward to examining the timetable to see how it might fit into my schedule but I do welcome their efforts."

Councillor Campion said: "This is excellent news for the district." The railway firm is launching a new timetable giving commuters better travel times from December 9.

The new fast direct link from Kidderminster to London will depart at 6.09am, taking two hours 20 minutes – nine minutes quicker than the current time – and at 7.09, with a journey time of two hours 26 minutes.

Coming home, the service will leave London at 5.15pm, arriving at Kidderminster and Stourbridge 18 minutes earlier than the existing 5.07pm train.

NEWS

Inspections at ground passed after three years

CRUCIAL safety inspections at a Midlands non-league football ground were passed, three years after warnings were first given.

Officials have given work at the home of Halesowen Town Football Club the thumbs up at a recent inspection.

Inspectors from the Football Association gave The Grove stadium a glowing report following major improvement works.

The ground in Old Hawne Lane, Halesowen, has achieved a grade D rating after officials decided against pursuing a higher rating.

The Football Association threatened the club with relegation three years ago after officials identified urgent repairs at The Grove.

The Yeltz currently play in the Northern League Division One South and would be able to be promoted into the Premier Division, under the present grading system.

Cat Billy needs a home

Billy the cat with Carrie Banks from the vets practice

MEET Billy the black and white cat who is a dead ringer for the moggie from the Felix television adverts. The playful cat is being nursed back to health by staff at Stewarts veterinary practice in Dudley. They believe the stray had been struck by a car and had suffered a bad eye injury.

Billy, who is estimated to be between 12 and 18 months old, underwent an operation and is making a full recovery. Staff are looking to find Billy, who has been neutered, a new home. Anyone interested can call 01384 252817.

Rapid improvement at school is outstanding

A sports college in Lower Gornal has been praised by Ofsted for the "rapid improvement" that has gained it an outstanding report. Ellowes Hall Sports College was rated outstanding in all areas by inspectors who visited the school in mid-November.

They noted that "rapid improvements have been made because of the very high ambition and drive of the headteacher". The inspectors added that students, staff and parents were "extremely proud" to be associated with the school.

At its last inspection the school had been given a "good" rating.

Headteacher Mr Andy Griffiths said: "Inspectors found the overall quality of teaching to be outstanding with strengths including teachers' planning, subject knowledge and high expectations.

Feature

"They also concluded that students' excellent behaviour and positive attitudes helped them learn well.

"The range of subjects on offer was found to be a strong feature of the school and played a major part in helping students to achieve outstanding outcomes."

by Sharon Marris

The report said results for Year 11 students had improved significantly year on year, particularly in English and mathematics, and were well above average.

It said all groups of students, including disabled students and those who have special educational needs, were making "outstanding progress".

Inspectors had visited the school coincidentally during the school's production of The Phantom of the Opera, Mr Griffiths added.

Chairman of the school's governing body Mr Geoff Marsh welcomed the report and said he was pleased everyone's hard work had been recognised.

Waste management firm Biffa taken over

WASTE management company Biffa, which has a major operation in the West Midlands, has been taken over.

The group, which employs 6,300, has debts of £1.1 billion and had been trying to find a buyer. It said the deal, which is due to be completed in January, should secure its future.

Major lenders including Anglo Gordon, Avenue Capital Group and Babson Capital Europe, have agreed to exchange debts for ownership and invest a further £75 million. It will reduce the debt to £520m.

It comes as the Biffa waste plant in Cannock was given four months to clean up its act and cut foul smells that are seeping from the site or face closure.

The Environment Agency will launch action to shut down the £24 million plant in Newlands Park if it is not satisfied improvements have been made by March.

Area manager Steve Morley announced the cut-off point at a public meeting recently, which heard Biffa has spent £800,000 to reduce the stench. Consultants MWH were commissioned to assess odours emanating from the plant.

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With a dazzling array of outrageous Olivier and Tony award-winning costumes and a hit parade of dancefloor favourites including It's Raining Men, I Will Survive, Hot Stuff, Finally, Boogie Wonderland, Go West, Girls Just Wanna Have Fun, and I Love The Nightlife, this wildly fresh and funny musical is a journey to the heart of fabulous!

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NEWS

Baggeridge Park plaque will commemorate mine

A PLAQUE and commemorative plate will be hung at a regional beauty spot to mark a former colliery that once employed thousands.

More than 80 people turned up at a reunion earlier this year on the land where the Baggeridge pit stood – inspiring the organiser to set up a memorial.

Dave Daly, who owns the tea shop at Baggeridge Country Park, is buying a special edition plate which he will frame and add a plaque with the names of men that worked at the colliery.

The mine, near Sedgley, opened in 1912 and closed down 56 years later in 1968. It was later turned into the country park.

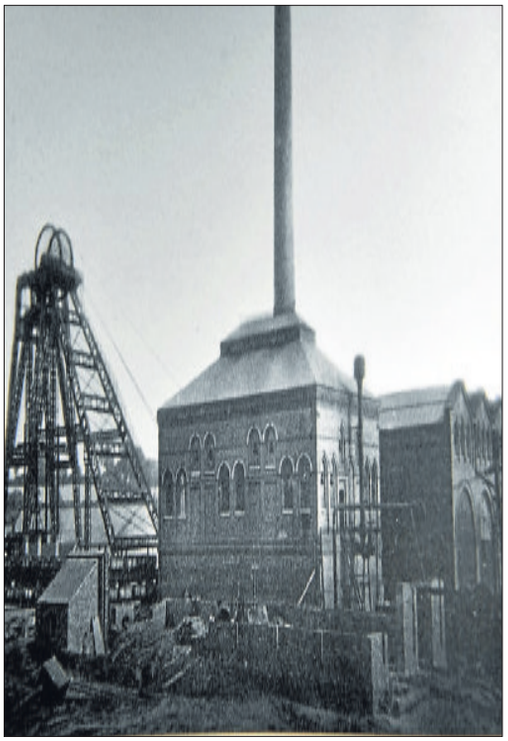
Mr Daly said he wants to ensure site visitors are aware of its significance to the local community.

Once he has the plate, he will get the plaque engraved and hopes to have it on display at his shop early next year.

The 40-year-old, who has run the shop with his wife, Julie, for the last 14 years, said: "It's an Edwardian fine bone china plate with a picture of the colliery so we thought it would be nice to use that.

"The reaction to the reunion was brilliant so we want to build on that and make it part of local history. It was 1,700ft deep – the deepest coal mine in the world.

"The colliery employed 3,000 men, even employing 14-year-old boys, who were paid the equivalent of just 62.5p a week."



Remembered – the former colliery at Baggeridge

Screen virus scam alert

FRAUDSTERS are targeting families with a virus which freezes computers and then displays a warning claiming to be from the Metropolitan Police accusing them of viewing pornography. It warns if they do not pay a £100 fine, the user's computer will be locked and they may face prosecution.

Colley Gate Computers, Halesowen has had more than 50 people contact them about the scam. Police say people should seek advice at www.getsafeonline.org

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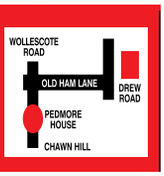

MEMORY LANE

A march to celebrate the freedom of the borough in Cannock in 1952

Members of The Royal Engineers Association line up for a picture taken back in 1997

The opening of new drill hall on the Walsall Road back in 1932

Bob Leighton from Hednesford with his albums on the Cannock Royal Engineers TA group

History group delight at poignant TA album

by Marion Brennan

STUNNED historians have been handed precious photographs of former Territorial Army servicemen from Staffordshire going back to 1911.

The pictures document a 50-year history of the Cannock-based 213th Royal Engineers from their origins at Norton Hall in Norton Canes to the early years at their current drill hall, built in 1932, at Bridgtown.

Most poignant are images from the First World War, showing local soldiers in France, and at training camps before the conflict started.

The album was compiled by a Captain Lakeland, who lived at Heath Hayes and became a member of the Old Comrades Association, formed after the Second World War by the surviving Royal Engineers from the area.

He handed it to fellow member and former regular soldier Bob Leighton, of Tudor Road, Hednesford, for safe keeping after he left Cannock for Wales to join the Royal Monmouth Royal Engineers Militia. That was 20 years ago.

Bob has kept it in pristine condition in his wardrobe ever since.

Now the Bridgtown and District Local History Society wants to preserve the album for future generations by placing it in their archives.

Bob, now 80, says: "When Captain Lakeland gave it to me, he said 'hold on to this.' If the branch ever folded, I was going to send it to the Royal Engineers Museum at Chatham.

"But the members of the history society are fascinated by it."

The album also contains newspaper cuttings, memorial cards and even a telegram from the Queen at Balmoral wishing the Territorials well. The history of the 213th goes back to 1908 when the 2nd North Midland Field Company was established at Norton Hall, which was long ago destroyed by mining subsidence. Immediately before the First World War, it became known as the 213th Field Company.

Later, the unit went to Egypt for a month before returning to France for the duration of the war.

Private

In the years preceding the Second World War it was regarded as one of the best within the 46th North Midland Division and known affectionately in the town as 'Cannock's private army.'

The history group's secretary Derrick Middleton said: "We were bowled over when we saw the book. It's a wonderful record."

He said in the short-term the society would be using it in their talks and newsletters.

Members making a pontoon bridge at Wyke Regis camp in 1957

Royal Engineers TA group's former home at Norton Hall in 1910

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From start to finish

THE principal of a dental clinic is championing a 'Teeth Made in Dudley' campaign for his dentures which have attracted patients from as far away as Spain and Portugal.

His nationally acclaimed prosthetics, prescribed and crafted on the premises in his North Street practice, have also found satisfied people from Dorset, the Isle of Anglesey, the Isle of Skye and London.

Steven Burchell DipCDT RSC(Eng), who first made headlines as "the smile mechanic" ten years ago, has established one of the most high-profile clinics in the West Midlands for his work in resolving denture problems. And the secret of his success, which this year has seen the Denture Clinic buck the national trend and undertake a £1m expansion investment? A seamless service to clients, where they are clinically assessed and have their prescription hand-crafted "all under one roof."

"It's a simple formula," says Steve, "but it has allowed me to be fastidious about the quality of teeth we supply.

"Embracing the disciplines of general dentistry and our specialism in dentures and their manufacture under one roof makes us very different."

Recalling some of his patients, who have literally travelled thousands of miles to have teeth made at the clinic, he says: "In many cases we were their last hope of resolving their problems with our made-in-Dudley teeth."

"We will never compromise on best clinical outcomes," adds Steve. Recently, the clinic has purchased two cutting-edge injection moulding machines which offer patients pin-point fitting accuracy. Steve draws on more than 30 years' experience in all disciplines of dental technology to produce his hallmark "functional, natural-looking teeth."

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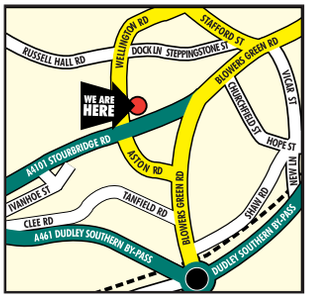

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NEWS

MP backing villagers in fight over homes bid

AN MP has joined the campaign to block controversial plans to build 175 properties on part of the 350-acre Hagley Hall estate, near Stourbridge. Villagers have criticised the idea.

by Heather Large

Sajid Javid has spoken out about the proposals for land bordered by the A456 Kidderminster Road and the A491 Stourbridge Road.

The MP, whose Bromsgrove constituency includes Hagley, said he feared, like residents, that the development could alter the character of the village.

Residents are concerned the influx of new families would push village services, including schools, beyond breaking point.

In an open letter, Mr Jarvid said: "I have been contacted over the previous months by many Hagley residents with regard to the proposed Cala Homes development in Hagley.

"The strength of local feeling on this issue has been made very clear to me. I do not support this proposed development. The scale of the proposals raises many questions, such as the impact on local infrastructure and services, the resultant noise and pollution and the affect on local wildlife."

Cala Homes regional managing director Darren Humphreys said the region faced a major housing shortage.

He said the firm would spend around £1.7 million to pay for improvements to roads and boost education.

The plans are expected to go to Bromsgrove District Council next month after a decision was delayed for impact assessment reports.

Charity finds homes for 23 cats

HALESOWEN Cat Protection found homes for 23 cats and kittens during its successful rehoming Day. Joy Tomkins and Jeanette Hill run the organisation which had 47 cats and kittens to rehome.

Sisters in tune to aid heart charity

Sophie Harris and sister Daisy with their new CD

A SCHOOLGIRL from Pensnett has put together a CD which has raised more than £100 for charity. Sophie Harris, aged 13, held auditions through her Facebook page for other singers to star on the recording titled Keep The Beat.

It features six songs and has raised £103 for the British Heart Foundation. The Kingswinford School pupil said: "I recorded it a couple of months ago. The idea for this was to get some other people on a CD with me and then it developed to make money for charity in the process.

"I auditioned people through my Facebook page and got 60 videos and chose three and there are five people including myself." Her sister Daisy, aged seven, Jessica Powell, Rebecca Ingram and Chloe Smith feature.

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Booiaka	7.15pm-8.15pm	Lanesfield
Zumba	6.30pm-7.30pm	Wordsley
Zumba Toning	7.45pm-8.30pm	Wordsley
TUESDAY		
Zumba	5.45pm- 6.45pm	Thorns Primary School
Zumba	9.45am-10.45am	Leisurelee Fitness
Bokwa	6.30pm-7.30pm	Leisurelee Fitness
Zumba	8.00pm-9.00pm	Leisurelee Fitness
Zumba	6.30pm-7.30pm	Wollescote
Zumba	7.45pm-8.45pm	Wollescote
Zumba	6.30pm-7.30pm	High Arcal
Pilates	7.30pm-8.30pm	High Arcal
WEDNESDAY		
Pilates	9.45am-10.45am	Leisurelee Fitness
Zumba	6.30pm-7.30pm	Leisurelee Fitness
Zumba	6.30pm-7.30pm	Wordsley
Zumba	6.30pm-7.30pm	High Arcal
Zumba	7.45pm-8.45pm	High Arcal
Ripped Toned Senato	6.30pm-7.30pm	Parkes Hall
Bokwa	7.45pm-8.30pm	Parkes Hall
THURSDAY		
Zumba	6.30pm-7.30pm	Kingswinford School
Zumba	7.45pm-8.45pm	Kingswinford School
Zumba	6.30pm-7.30pm	Darkhouse
Zumba	6.30pm-7.30pm	Hagley Primary School
FRIDAY		
Zumba Toning	10.15am-11.00am.	Scout Hut
Zumba	6.30pm-7.30pm	Wordsley
Zumba	6.30pm-7.30pm	Kingswinford School
SATURDAY		
Zumba	11.15am-12.00pm	Leisurelee Fitness
Zumba	9.30am-10.30am	High Arcal
Zumbatomics	9.30am Lil Starz (4-7 yrs) & 10.15 Big Starz (8-12)	Kingswinford School
SUNDAY		
Zumba	9.45am-10.45am	Leisurelee Fitness
Bokwa	11.15am-12.00pm	Leisurelee Fitness

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ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Scheme launched to keep residents warm this winter

Dudley Council has launched a winter warmth support scheme to keep borough residents warm and well in their homes this winter.

The winter warmth scheme is being managed by the council, working in partnership with other local organisations including NHS Dudley, Age UK, and Dudley Council for Voluntary Services (DCVS). It aims to keep people who may be struggling to keep warm at home, cosy and snug, through the range of assistance available.

The scheme provides a variety of practical hand-on support, information and expert advice to help people keep their homes and themselves warm this winter.

Anyone concerned about keeping their home warm, struggling with paying their fuel bills or worried about keeping well at home during the winter can ask for help from the scheme.

All sorts of help can be provided from expert advice on paying fuel bills, help with energy debt, assistance with home energy efficiency improvements and grants and help accessing warm homes discount funds. Emergency crisis heating measures are also available, such as portable heaters, blankets, hot water bottles and even warm clothing.

The scheme will also arrange for local volunteers to make regular 'befriending' checks on people who may be at risk of becoming isolated during cold weather. They can also help out with shopping trips, collecting prescriptions, dog walking or helping with transport, if needed.

Last year's winter warmth support scheme helped almost 250 households to keep warm. Portable heaters, blankets and hotwater bottles were provided thorough crisis funding, people were assisted with their energy debts, and helped to switch to the best energy supplier and tariff for their circumstances. Residents were also helped with applications to the warm homes discount (which helps people with their winter fuel bills) and to energy trust funds.

The winter warmth support helpline is 01384 817086.

Winter warmth

Each winter up to 200 people in Dudley Borough die as a result of being too cold in their home. Being cold at home isn't just uncomfortable, any health problems can be made much worse, or even fatal by being cold.

Don't risk your health this winter, our winter warmth fund is here to help, we want people to keep warm, snug and well.

Winter warmth provides free practical support and advice to keep you and your home warm. Things like help with paying fuel bills, energy efficiency grants, emergency heaters, even support for older people struggling to get out.

If you or anyone you know may be at risk of getting cold this winter, please give us a call.

01384 817086

Winter warmth support
keep warm, keep well
Call 01384 817086

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CLUB NEWS

Examples of tree in a bag shown

TRYSULL & SEISDON WI

'JERUSALEM' was sung at the beginning of the November meeting after which, visitors and a new member were welcomed.

President Sue Cotterall introduced the speaker and demonstrator for the evening, Linda Jackson.

Linda is a member of Trysull and Seisdon WI and her theme was 'Christmas Tree in a Bag'.

Linda had recently joined the 'Bantock Bodgers', a local group who meet once a week 'rag rugging' and Linda had made a Christmas tree using the method.

Linda assembled the tree, filling it with holly and a variety of Christmas decorations.

Linda created a number of floral decorations including a 'Byzantine' Christmas tree using spruce and a variety of foliage, the biggest cupcake with flowers including smaller cupcakes to fit on the cake stand, a splendid 'tree house', using winter white rose, a pink Christmas door wreath.

The floral arrangements were raffled and the winners were Liz, Peggy, Freda, Sue, Pauline, Barbara, Doreen, Ena and Freda Fellows.

A cuppa and a cake rounded off the evening in true WI style.

The group WI Carol Service will be held at Swindon on December 15 at 3pm. The next WI meeting is on Thursday December 13, the Christmas dinner party.

Members are told of Christmas traditions

Shugborough collections assistant Gemma Oakley was guest speaker

CODSALL WOOD WI

PRESIDENT Beryl Atkins welcomed everyone to the November meeting. A party went to Bridgemere Garden Centre and thoroughly enjoyed the day, despite the awful weather.

After the business Beryl welcomed Gemm Oakley, from Shugborough, collections assistant at the County Museum. There are more than 28,000 objects and 46,000 photographs there, including social history objects, agricultural objects, costumes and vehicles. They are all to do with Staffordshire, either made in the county or used by people who live there.

Gemma went on to describe the traditional Christmas. During the medieval period Christmas lasted for 12 days which is the time it took for the gifts to welcome Christ into the world. By the time Queen Victoria died gifts and cards had developed. Christmas cards first came in the 1840s.

Food also developed. Goose and swan were popular among the wealthy. Turkey came about during the 18th and 19th centuries. Christmas puddings were originally made of meat. By 1595 it was known as plum pudding. Mince pies used to be made of meat and poultry.

Christmas crackers were a Victorian invention by Tom Smith in 1846, while Father Christmas appeared in 1870s.

Gemma had brought along many old Christmas cards, which mainly were illustrated with the coming of spring. The competition of a Christmas decoration was won by Hazel Bristow, second was Margaret Britton.

Ladies enjoy retail therapy

SEDGLEY MORNING TG

MEMBERS celebrated the 17th birthday in October and were entertained by Mr Proudman with songs from the shows. Afterwards, they all enjoyed a bring and share buffet lunch.

November's business was followed by a talk from Roger Brooks, of Wiltshire Farm Foods. In November, a party of members took a trip to Masson Mills Shopping Outlet near Matlock, Derbyshire which is housed in an old Cotton Mill. Despite a foggy start, it lifted enough to allow members to get a good view of the Derbyshire Dales. The ladies enjoyed a few hours of retail therapy and some visited the Mill Museum.

The Christmas lunch is at The Kingfisher Restaurant, on December 13.

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THE WAY I SEE IT

PM returned to thanks from negotiations of EU budget

Dudley South Conservative MP Chris Kelly takes the stand in our weekly Chronicle column which gives our local representatives the chance to air their views

IN the Commons I thanked the Prime Minister upon his return from the European Council budget negotiations for "once again, and unlike the party opposite, doing the right thing by the hard-working taxpayers of Dudley South."

I also asked him to comment on the working methods of the EU whereby heads of Government are kept up through the night in an attempt to wear them down and force a bad deal upon net contributing nations like the UK.

This is "no way to run a union of nation states" I told the Commons.

I attended an interesting meeting in Parliament of the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) — chaired by Stewart Towe CBE and attended by other Black Country MPs from both of the main parties — to discuss the strategic challenges facing our area.

In 2011 I founded the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Family Business.

Last week I was pleased to welcome former Deputy Prime Minister and accomplished businessman Lord (Michael) Heseltine to the group's second annual reception in Parliament attended by family business directors from across the UK. I enjoyed a visit to Black Country Traditional Inns Limited, head quartered on Tansey Green Road in Pensnett, where I learned about micro-brewing and had a discussion with the company's director about the beer duty escalator.

The group owns almost 30 pubs and employs a large number of people in the area in part-time and full-time roles.

Delighted

I was delighted to call in to visit Marian Timmins in Kingsley Road, Kingswinford to join celebrations for her 100th birthday.

Marion has been a member of the Conservative Party ever since her youth and I was pleased to be able to present Marion with flowers along with a letter from the Prime Minister thanking Marion for her long-service to the Party whilst wishing her many happy returns.

I attended a comprehensive technical briefing from Clean Power Properties Limited about their planning application for a waste to energy centre in Brierley Hill.

I then joined the 1st Bromley Pensnett Scout Group celebrating the re-opening of their Scout hut on Dell Road following a recent raid by thieves where I presented a raffle prize from the House of Commons gift shop.

Well done to Andrew Garratt, Angela Heath and all the team for their hard work.

Myself and local members were out in Wordsley with our winter woolies on "knocking and dropping" my 2013 calendars along with feedback cards from Councillors John Jones and Glenis Simms, none of which have been paid for by the taxpayer or trade unions.

This week we start delivering my Christmas cards.

I held a busy constituency advice surgery at Wordsley Community Centre.

As ever my experienced team and I are always available to help constituents via the contact details below or www.dudleyconservatives.com/surgeries.

I visited Press Leakage Control Services Limited in Kingswinford and learned how the company — which employs 23 people — has been using its innovative technology to carry out emergency repairs to Britain's ageing gas pipelines for several decades, including a recent prestigious job at Buckingham Palace.

I also visited Premier Heating Company Limited in Brierley Hill — which employs 22 people — where Managing Director, John Faulkner, explained to me some of the frustrations of dealing with local authorities in the Black Country.

Selling

Dudley Conservatives have a range of social events organised.

Tickets are selling well for our Christmas party on Friday 14 December at Kingswinford Conservative Club — they're available at £3 (free for members), which includes a buffet.

Come along and pay Cllr Cheryl Billingham on the night or see www.dudleyconservatives.com/events for details.

Chris Kelly can be contacted on 01384 211 041 or via office@chriskelly.mp.

You can also read the latest news and views at www.chriskelly.mp.

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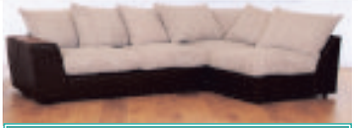

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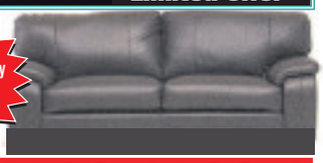

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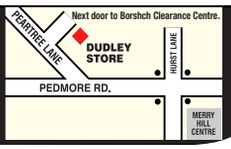

Scott brought a concert of two halves to Second City's Town Hall

Scott Matthews

Scott Matthews
Town Hall, Birmingham

ACCLAIMED Wolverhampton musician Scott Matthews played a gig of two halves at Town Hall, Birmingham the first of which was the singer on his own doing acoustic songs.

Scott came on to the stage alone with one of his opening songs being the ballad Myself Again from his What The Night Delivers album. This set the tone for the night and while Scott is undoubtedly skilful he really needs to widen his repertoire of sounds and certainly mix them up when it comes to concerts and introduce some upbeat tunes.

Many of his songs are indistinguishable from each other and his often slurring style of singing can make it difficult, no doubt with the exception of his most attentive of fans, to understand the lyrics. His on stage presence also lacks any real charisma and tends to be a little dull unfortunately. This said, his obvious talent as a musician is unquestionable and he threw out a challenge to his appreciative audience to come up with a name for a song which as yet is untitled. For the second half of the concert he was joined on stage by his band for the fuller sounding The Fool's Fooling Himself which had a distinct middle Eastern undertone complimented by Scott's high strung and almost ethereal voice.

With the band behind him Scott moved into Obsession Never Sleeps. Towards the end of his set he eventually started picking up the tempo to give a great 12-bar blues finish.

Danny Farragher

Ned's Civic reunion proves to be atomic

Jonn Penney back out in front for the Ned's Atomic Dustbin reunion

Ned's Atomic Dustbin, Civic Hall, Wolverhampton

"Wolverhampton Civic Hall, so much to answer for," quipped Ned's Atomic Dustbin singer Jonn Penney as his band turned back the clock 20 years on Saturday for their biggest reunion gig since their early 1990s heyday.

It recalled the era, just before Britpop and grunge, when Britain's youth briefly rocked to the 'Sound of Stourbridge'.

The Neds were back with their original line-up to recreate their breakthrough Nothing Is Cool video track by track, to mark its reissue on DVD, at the venue where it was filmed.

BBC radio DJ Steve Lamacq introduced the band, recalling the night two decades before when he reviewed the Neds' triumphant Civic Hall show for the New Musical Express.

Downstairs at the Civic was packed with late 30somethings reliving their teens. Many of the male fans have a lot less hair now and greater girths but that didn't stop a considerable contingent from moshing 'down the front', attempting to crowd surf or throwing their plastic pint pots in the air... quite an extravagance if still half-filled with beer.

Ned fans had travelled from Japan, Australia and America, as well as from Stourbridge, and were nicely warmed up by 90s funk-rockers and former John Peel favourites Cud with their Purple Love Balloon.

From the moment Penney pogoed into action for Aim it was party time. The band's twin-bass and clattering slacker rhythm sounded as good now as it did back in the day.

Other highlights included Grey Cell Green and a rousing, rollicking Kill Your Television.

As Jonn Penney said afterwards, the gig was "an absolute belter".

Leon Burakowski

The Fureys still friendly

The Fureys & Davey Arthur, Robin2, Bilston

It's hard to remember there being a time when the Fureys and Davey Arthur were not around but the great thing about the Irish folk band is they have never lost their common touch making their concerts feel like an intimate gathering of invited friends.

Eddie Furey opened proceedings with Clare To Here a country sound accentuated by the picking sound of both Eddie and Davey Arthur.

Brother Finbar then took over with one of a handful of ballads which were inspired by lost family and friends with The Old Man which had a moving Harry Chapin Cat's In the Cradle lyrics which spoke of lost opportunities.

So things didn't get too morose they swiftly moved into a full on jig before Davey regaled the audience with one of his wild stories as a precursor to Eddie singing Your Father Doesn't Like Me Anyway, a somehow northern sounding ditty similar to Dirty Ol Town which spoke of an unhappy love affair.

They had some fun with the audience too with a song inspired by Robbie Burns Lizzie Lindsey where Eddie sang about love and romance before the band moved into The Mad Lady, which comes from Cork, which is one of those wonderful folk songs which manages to see the funny side of tragedy and inevitably throws in death, wild living and drinking.

Leaving London from their the latest album, Through The Years, had more than a feel of Ralph McTell about it with a country undertone brought in by the voice of Finbar.

The band then finished the first half of the set with Sweet Sixteen which remains their biggest hit to date. They came back on stage to another favourite Leaving of Liverpool. Finbar began a solo The Leaving of Nancy but was soon underpinned by the harmonies of Eddie and the rest of the group for the chorus. No Irish band can get away without singing songs about emigration and The Fureys were no exception with a solo from Finbar called Absent Friends.The band finished the night with Go Lassie Go.

Danny Farragher

A show of hands from the audience

Show of Hands
Birmingham Town Hall

WHAT excellent timing. Show of Hands visited Birmingham just in time to enjoy a festive pep from the German market and we were treated to what was regarded by them as the finale of their 28-date tour. In short it was party time for all.

The majestic partnership of Steve Knightley and Phil Beer soared as expected, treating us to new songs from their Wake the Union album and revisiting old favourites.

Yes Skegness on Saturday might officially have been their last date but it was we Midlanders they wanted to hang out with as we leapt to our feet to such masterpieces as Cousin Jack and Now You Know.

Songs were interspersed with warmth, friendliness, humour and explanations for their new jazzy persuasion. This bon homie was extended to up-and-coming Leonard Podolak and Matt Gordon who provided support and had us up and dancing to their Appalachian joy within the first 20 minutes.

In contrast, the moment that stilled the crowd and set my spine tingling was when Miranda Sykes – guest artist with Steve and Phil – gave us the simple My Sister The Moon partnered only by her own double bass playing. A beautiful rendition and even more effective amid the animation of the rest of the night.

Sarah Cowen

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Choir is heralding start of Christmas

A CHURCH and a choir will join forces on Sunday to celebrate Christmas.

Halesowen Choral Society will sing at Overend Methodist Church, Banners Lane, Cradley, at an advent service at 6pm.

Overend Methodist Church will also hold its traditional carol service on December 23 at 6pm.

Dudley Salvation Army band will play in Halesowen this weekend.

They will hold a concert at St Paul's Advent Concert in Blackheath on Saturday at 7pm at the Long Lane church.

Mayor to attend civic carol service

DUDLEY Council has organised the annual civic carol service on December 20.

Mayor, Councillor Melvyn Mottram, will be at the service at ChristChurch, Coseley, from 7.30pm.

Dudley Young Voices, VTime and In Sound Company choirs will be helping raise the roof, while the service will be led by Reverend Heather Humphrey.

Refreshments will be served at ChristChurch-CofEPrimary School hall, following the service.

Singers in concert

THE Clent Hills Singers will present their Christmas concert at St Saviour's Church, Hagley, on Saturday at 7.30pm.

Electronic rocker is ready to make his fans electric

THE influential Gary Numan is in concert at Wolverhampton's Wulfrun Hall tonight (Thursday) on his Dead Moon Falling Tour.

Gary Numan

Originally emerging from the 1970s London punk scene, Numan was part of the electronic movement that blossomed in the 1980s with The Human League and Soft Cell. Numan himself was inspired by David Bowie and German electronic pioneers Kraftwerk.

Numan's early hits included Cars and Are Friends Electric? But he is not an artist who is stuck in the past, he went through a reinvention almost as radical as fellow 80s electronic act Depeche Mode and became a major influence on the goth rock scene, inspiring artists as diverse as Marilyn Manson and Lady Gaga.

Tonight he will unveil songs from forthcoming album Splinter plus new versions of songs from 2011's Dead Son Rising album.

War of the Worlds returns

GARY Barlow's hit cover version of Forever Autumn from the 'New Generation' album of Jeff Wayne's Musical Version of The War Of The Worlds has put the spotlight back on the spectacular arena musical.

Wayne will be conducting his orchestra and avoiding being crushed by a giant alien killing machine when the show returns to Birmingham NIA tomorrow night (Friday). The cast includes Jason Donovan, Marti Pellow, Kerry Ellis and Ricky Wilson from the Kaiser Chiefs. Actor Liam Neeson will appear in 3D hologram form as The Journalist.

A Grand night out for granny too

Feathers will fly – Sherrie Hewson meets Orville and Keith Harris as they prepare for Grand panto Jack and the Beanstalk

THE CHRONICLE has teamed up with Grannynet, the community website for grandmothers, and Wolverhampton Grand Theatre to offer one lucky reader five tickets so all the family can enjoy spectacular panto Jack and the Beanstalk, starring Sherrie Hewson, of Benidorm and Coronation Street.

At www.grannynet.co.uk, grannies are being asked to sit down with their grandchildren to discuss what the most important things about Christmas are, such as families getting together.

For your chance to win tickets to Jack and the Beanstalk at the Grand on Sunday, January 6, at 2pm, tell us which top TV soap Sherrie Hewson and her panto co-star Ken Morley used to feature in.

Send your answer on a postcard with your name, address and contact number to Panto Competition, Chronicle Series, Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES. The closing date is Friday, December 14.Usual rules apply and the editor's decision is final.

Jack And The Beanstalk, featuring Niki Evans as The Fairy and Nigel Ellacott as The Dame, is at the Lichfield Street theatre from Saturday (December 8) to January 20. To book tickets call the box office on 01902 429212 or visit www.grandtheatre.co.uk

WOLVERHAMPTON GRAND THEATRE

Magical tales from inside wardrobe

DUDLEY Little Theatre Company is presenting the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe from Wednesday, until Saturday, December 8 at Netherton Arts Centre, Northfield Road.

The adaptation of the well loved tale of good and evil takes the audience on a magical mystery tour of the land of Narnia with four children, peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy, who stumble into this strange land through the wardrobe.

Tickets are available from 01384 872583

Players coming to the warehouse

BANJO, mandolin and guitar players will be taking part in a Christmas show in Stourbridge.

The Midlands Fretted Orchestra will be at The Bonded Warehouse, Canal Street on December 8.

The musicians are promising festive favourites and traditional carols. Director Danielle Saxon Reeves from Stourbridge said: "The evening promises a host of seasonal favourites."

Sound of Motown

ROY G Hemmings' multi-award winning Motown & Philadelphia Tour will perform at Dudley Town Hall with on Saturday at 7.30pm.

The show includes hits by Candi Staton, The Stylistics, The Supremes and The Temptations. Tickets cost £21.

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Dudley BUILDING SOCIETY

What's On!

SATURDAY'S TV 8.12.12

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE

Dermot O'Leary

The X Factor
ITV1, 8pm
When Ella Henderson was voted off the show on November 18, millions of fans around the country gasped in disbelief. The shockwaves from her departure proved that nobody is safe in Simon Cowell's juggernaut of a talent search. Now the real questions are: how are the producers going to make a glorified sing-off drag on for so long? Can we get through the finale without anyone using the sentence 'My act has been on a real journey'? And will Dermot O'Leary give us one final dance of the series before the set is packed up for another year?

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Baking Made Easy. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **12.15** Football Focus. **1.00** Live Snooker: UK Championship. The opening session of the second semi-final. **4.30** Final Score. **5.10** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **5.30** A Question of Sport.

6.00 Pointless Celebrities. Kerry Katona, Kim Woodburn, Edwina Currie, Diane Abbott, Dave Spikey, Jane McDonald, Lizo Mzimba and Ellie Crisell are the famous faces taking part in the general knowledge quiz.

6.50 Strictly Come Dancing. Bruce Forsyth and Tess Daly present as the final six celebrities demonstrate their best moves in a bid to avoid the dreaded dance-off and make it through to next week's semi-final. The results are tomorrow at 7pm.

7.55 Merlin. Morgana takes desperate measures to find Emrys.

8.40 The National Lottery Awards 2012. Ceremony celebrating the work of 21 National Lottery-funded projects.

9.20 Casualty. Tamzin's career is jeopardised when the ex-footballer whose neck she failed to immobilise sues the Ambulance Trust. Dominic and Tom come to blows over a patient's treatment.

10.10 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day. Including Sunderland v Chelsea; National Lottery Update.

11.50 The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games in the Championship, League One and League Two.

1.05 Weatherview. **1.10** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies. **12.00** The Sky at Night. (R) **12.20** Coast. (R) **12.40 Film:** Carefree. (1938) Musical comedy, starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. **2.05 Film:** Becket. (1964) Historical drama, starring Richard Burton and Peter O'Toole. **4.30** Live Snooker: UK Championship. **5.30** Flog It! (R)

6.30 Dad's Army. Mainwaring finds a German pilot trapped on top of the town clock by his parachute, so the platoon attempts a rescue mission. Classic comedy, starring Arthur Lowe. (R)

7.00 Live Snooker: UK Championship. Coverage of the second and concluding session of the second semi-final at the Barbican Centre in York, where a maximum of nine frames are scheduled to take place. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

10.00 QI XL. Stephen Fry hosts an extended version of the quiz, featuring Professor Brian Cox, Rhys Darby, Jason Manford and Alan Davies answering questions on the topic of justice.

10.45 Led Zeppelin Live in London 2007: Celebration Day. The band's one-off reunion performance at London's O2 as part of a benefit concert to commemorate the life of Atlantic Records co-founder Ahmet Ertegun.

11.45 Film: The Relic. (1997) A biologist and a detective tangle with an ancient Amazonian beast stalking Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History. Horror, with Penelope Ann Miller, Tom Sizemore and Linda Hunt.

1.30 Film: Day of the Dead. (1985)

3.05 Close.

ITV1

6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Badou. **6.10** Babar and the Adventures of Badou. (R) **6.25** The Hive. (R) **6.35** The Hive. (R) **6.45** The Hive. (R) **6.50** Canimals. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.05** The Avengers. **7.25** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **7.40** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **7.50** Horrid Henry. (R) **8.00** Horrid Henry. (R) **8.15** Horrid Henry. (R) **8.30** Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **11.20 Film:** Columbo: Requiem for a Falling Star. (1973) **12.50** ITV News; Weather. **1.05** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **1.50** Holiday Home Sweet Home. **2.50** Holiday Home Sweet Home. **3.55 Film:** Back to the Future. (1985)

6.00 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.15 ITV News; Weather.

6.30 New You've Been Framed! A fresh selection of comical clips.

7.00 The McFly Show. The pop group perform some of their biggest hits, joined by celebrity guests including comedian Al Murray and Coronation Street star Michelle Keegan (Tina McIntyre).

8.00 The X Factor. The three remaining acts battle it out in part one of the live final.

10.00 Film: The Invention of Lying. (2009) Premiere. Comedy, starring Ricky Gervais.

11.05 ITV News; Weather.

11.20 Film: The Invention of Lying. (2009) Premiere. Concluded.

12.05 The Store; ITV News Headlines. **2.10** In Plain Sight. (R) **2.55** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Hoobs. (R) **7.00** Beach Volleyball. (R) **7.55** The Morning Line. **8.55** T4: According to Jim. (R) **9.25** T4: Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.00** T4: Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.35** T4: Frasier. (R) **11.05** T4: Frasier. (R) **11.40** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.15** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.45** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.20** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.50** Channel 4 Racing. **3.55** The Simpsons. (R) **4.20** Come Dine with Me: Ireland. **4.55** Come Dine with Me: Ireland. **5.25** Come Dine with Me: Ireland. **5.55** Come Dine with Me: Ireland.

6.25 Come Dine with Me: Ireland. Collette McGahern hosts the final dinner party in Cavan and Monaghan.

6.55 Channel 4 News.

7.25 4thought.tv. A woman who was attacked for being Jewish.

7.30 Heston's Fantastical Food. Heston Blumenthal aims to rekindle people's love of traditional pub food by building a giant pie and transforming it into a fully functioning public house in Wales. (R)

8.30 Stephen Fry: Gadget Man. Technology to make work easier and more enjoyable. (R)

9.00 Film: Predators. (2010) Premiere. Hardened fighters from across the globe are taken to an alien jungle planet to become prey in a big-game hunt. Sci-fi thriller sequel, with Adrien Brody.

11.15 Film: 30 Days of Night. (2007) Horror, starring Josh Hartnett.

1.20 Film: The Girl Next Door. (2004) **3.10** Hollyoaks. **5.15** Countdown. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Power Rangers: Super Samurai. **10.35** ThunderCats. **11.10** The Gadget Show. (R) **12.10** Chris Tarrant: Extreme Railways. (R) **1.10 Film:** Superman II. (1980) Comic-strip adventure sequel, with Christopher Reeve. **3.40 Film:** Annie Claus Is Coming to Town. (2011) Premiere. Christmas fantasy, starring Maria Thayer and Sam Page. **5.25 Film:** Single Santa Seeks Mrs Claus. (2004) The son of Father Christmas is looking for a wife, just as the son of a single mother is writing to Santa to ask for a new dad. Comedy, with Crystal Bernard and Steve Guttenberg.

7.10 Film: A Grandpa for Christmas. (2007) An elderly actor unexpectedly ends up caring for his grand-daughter over Christmas and helping her with a school pageant. Family comedy, with Ernest Borgnine and Juliette Goglia.

8.50 5 News Weekend.

8.55 Tommy Cooper's Christmas Special. Festive edition of the comic magician's show from 1974, featuring music by Dana and Vic Damone and a guest appearance by French puppeteer Andre Tahon. (R)

10.00 Live International Boxing. James DeGale v Fulgencio Zuniga. Mark Pougatch presents coverage of the bout for the WBC Silver Super Middleweight title, held at the Bonus Arena in Hull.

12.00 SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **4.00** Michaela's Wild Challenge. Ellie Harrison tries to outrace a cartwheeling spider. (R) **4.25** Great Artists. (R) **4.50** County Secrets. (R) **5.05** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.15** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.40** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 England's Worst Ever Football Team **8.00** Top Gear Bolivia Special **9.15** Russell Howard's Good News Extra **10.00 Film:** Die Hard with a Vengeance (1995) Action thriller sequel, with Bruce Willis, Samuel L Jackson and Jeremy Irons.

BBC Four
7.00 Natural World: The Himalayas **8.00** David Attenborough's First Life **9.00** The Killing III **11.00** More Old Jews Telling Jokes **11.30** Voyager: To the Final Frontier

ITV2
3.45 The Xtra Factor **7.50 Film:** Kindergarten Cop (1990) **10.00** The Xtra Factor **11.20** Lemon La Vida Loca: Merry Keithmas! Part 1

ITV3
3.55 A Touch of Frost **5.55** Murder, She Wrote **7.00** Rosemary & Thyme **8.00** Foyle's War **10.00** Bomb Girls **11.00** A Touch of Frost

ITV4
12.45 Live Tennis. The Statoil Masters. **5.00** Cheers **5.30 Film:** Bend of the River (1952) **7.25** The Sweeney **8.30** Live Tennis. The Statoil Masters. **10.00 Film:** The Black Windmill (1974) Spy thriller, starring Michael Caine, John Vernon, Janet Suzman, Donald Pleasence, Delphine Seyrig and Joss Ackland.

E4
5.35 How I Met Your Mother **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **8.00** Rules of Engagement **9.00** Derren Brown: The Guilt Trip **10.00 Film:** Scary Movie 2 (2001) **11.40** The Big Bang Theory

Film4
3.20 Carry On Doctor (1967) **5.15** The Nativity Story (2006) **7.10** Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer (2007) **9.00** The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (2008) Fantasy drama, starring Brad Pitt.

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What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 9.12.12

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE

Dan Snow

Rome's Lost Empire
BBC1, 8.40pm
You've got to hand it to archaeologists – they know how to get their hands dirty. Come rain or shine, they're happy to spend their days digging around in a muddy trench so that we can better understand the world in which our forebears lived. Sarah Parcak, though, is what's known as a 'space archaeologist', using the latest satellite technology to gain views of the landscape which would otherwise be impossible. In this documentary, Dan Snow joins the scientist on a mission to identify and track down lost cities, ampitheatres and forts.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.40** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Fern Britton Meets Frank Bruno. **11.00** Sunday Politics; Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.20** Countryfile. (R) **1.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.00** Helicopter Heroes. (R) **2.30** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.30** Call the Midwife. (R) **4.30** Songs of Praise. **5.05** Nigel Slater's Dish of the Day. (R) **5.35** BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.00 Countryfile. Julia Bradbury visits the National Arboretum in Gloucestershire and John Craven is on the trail of English truffles. Plus, the increase in tree diseases crossing the Channel. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

7.00 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. Six become five and Michael Buble performs.

7.40 Antiques Roadshow. The team travels to Wightwick Manor near Wolverhampton.

8.40 Rome's Lost Empire. Dan Snow uses satellite technology to reveal the secrets of ancient Rome, tracking down lost cities, amphitheatres and forts with the help of archaeologist Sarah Parcak.

10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day 2. Including Manchester City v Manchester United.

11.35 The Graham Norton Show. With Daniel Radcliffe, Jessica Ennis and Bruno Mars. (R)

12.20 Film: Annapolis. (2006) **1.55** Weatherview. **2.00** Sign Zone: Film 2012. (R) **2.30** Holby City. (R) **3.30** Paul Martin's Handmade Revolution. (R) **4.15** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** Nigella's Christmas Kitchen. (R) **12.00** Live Athletics. **1.45** Ray Reardon at 80. (R) **2.15** Live Snooker: UK Championship.

6.00 Flog It! Experts Michael Baggot and Adam Partridge visit Blackburn in Lancashire, and Paul Martin discovers the story behind a group of local dialect poets. (R)

6.20 Fawlty Towers. A married couple, both doctors, check in and become intrigued by the behaviour of manic manager Basil, who feels sure a male guest has smuggled a girl into his room. (R)

7.00 The Most Courageous Raid of WWII. Paddy Ashdown tells the story of the "Cockleshell Heroes", the Royal Marine commandos who in 1942 launched an attack on enemy shipping in Bordeaux harbour. (R)

8.00 Live Snooker: UK Championship. Hazel Irvine introduces coverage of the second and concluding session of the final at the Barbican Centre in York, where a maximum of 11 frames are scheduled to take place.

11.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. Episodes star Stephen Mangan takes over hosting duties on the quiz, with Kayvan Novak and Michelle Heaton among the guests joining team captains Noel Fielding and Phill Jupitus. (R)

11.30 Film: Keeping Up with the Steins. (2006) Comedy, with Daryl Sabara, Jami Gertz and Cheryl Hines.

12.50 BBC News. **4.00** Close.

ITV1

6.00 CITV: Engie Benjy. **6.10** Babar and the Adventures of Badou. (R) **6.25** Babar and the Adventures of Badou. (R) **6.35** Signed Stories. (R) **6.45** Canimals. (R) **6.55** Canimals. (R) **7.00** Fleabag Monkeyface. (R) **7.15** Fleabag Monkeyface. (R) **7.25** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **7.35** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **7.50** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **8.00** Big Time Rush. **8.30** Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **9.25** There's No Taste Like Home. (R) **10.25** Dinner Date. (R) **11.25** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **12.25** ITV News; Weather. **12.30 Film:** Carry On Up the Jungle. (1970) **2.15** The X Factor. (R) **4.15** Midsomer Murders. (R)

6.15 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.25 ITV News; Weather.

6.40 Celebrity Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Pantomime Special. With Denise Welch, David Hasselhoff, Cheryl Fergison, Tim Vine, John Partridge and Alison Hammond.

7.40 The X Factor Results. With part one of the final behind them, this is the last chance for the two remaining acts to impress the public in the race to become this year's winner.

9.40 Rod Stewart's Christmas. The rock star performs his favourite festive songs at Stirling Castle and collaborates with Michael Buble and Kylie Minogue.

10.55 ITV News; Weather.

11.15 Film: Nutty Professor II: The Klumps. (2000) Comedy sequel, starring Eddie Murphy.

1.05 The Store; ITV News Headlines. **2.55** Motorsport UK. **3.45** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Sali Mali. (R) **6.05** The Treacle People. (R) **6.15** The Hoobs. (R) **6.45** The Hoobs. (R) **7.10** The Great Ethiopian Run. **8.05** Will & Grace. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.05** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.05** The Simpsons. (R) **1.40** Hugh's 3 Good Things. **2.10** Hugh's 3 Good Things. **2.45** Hugh's 3 Good Things. **3.20** Hugh's 3 Good Things. **3.55** Hugh's 3 Good Things. **4.25** Deal or No Deal. **5.20 Film:** Elf. (2003)

7.20 Channel 4 News.

7.50 4thought.tv. A short film in which a member of the public reflects on whether Jews are still persecuted in Britain today.

7.55 The Political Slot.

8.00 How the Bismarck Sank HMS Hood. David Mearns and Innes McCartney search the wreck of HMS Hood for clues as to why the battlecruiser sank so quickly after being attacked by German battleship Bismarck in May 1941.

9.00 Homeland. Saul catches up with an old friend and discovers evidence of covert activities by Estes, while Brody and Walden are at odds over the future of their political relationship.

10.00 Peep Show. Mark thinks Simon is trying to get back together with Dobby.

10.30 Film: GI Joe: The Rise of Cobra. (2009) Action adventure, starring Channing Tatum, Sienna Miller and Christopher Eccleston.

12.45 American Football Live. **4.45** Grudge Match. (R) **4.55** Countdown. (R) **5.40** Make Do & Mend. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **6.30** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.45** Olive the Ostrich. **6.50** Abby's Flying Fairy School. (R) **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.20** Animal Antics. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.50** Castle Farm. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. **8.40** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.30** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.45** Jelly Jamm. (R) **10.00** Power Rangers: Super Samurai. **10.35** ThunderCats. **11.10** Meals in Moments. (R) **11.20** Highland Emergency. (R) **11.50 Film:** Jack Frost. (1998) **1.45 Film:** Grounded. (2006) **3.30 Film:** Superman III. (1983)

6.05 5 News Weekend.

6.10 Film: The Dirty Dozen. (1967) Twelve convicts are sent on a mission to destroy a French chateau being used as a German military base. Second World War action adventure, starring Lee Marvin and Telly Savalas.

9.00 Film: The Expendables. (2010) Premiere. Action thriller, directed by and starring Sylvester Stallone. With Jason Statham.

11.05 Film: Full Metal Jacket. (1987) Vietnam War drama, starring Matthew Modine.

1.25 SuperCasino. **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.50** County Secrets. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Top Gear **8.00** The Premier League's Most Amazing Moments **9.00** Sun, Sex and Suspicious Parents **10.00** Him & Her **10.30** American Dad! **11.15** Family Guy

BBC Four
7.00 Hidcote: A Garden for All Seasons **8.00** African Railway **9.00** The Trouble with Aid **11.00** The Trouble with Aid – The Debate **11.45** Hidcote: A Garden for All Seasons

ITV2
3.00 Film: The Little Vampire (2000) **4.55 Film:** Uncle Buck (1989) **6.55 Film:** Hulk (2003) Comic-strip adventure, starring Eric Bana. **9.40** The Xtra Factor **11.00 Film:** Hot Fuzz (2007)

ITV3
2.50 Film: The Nun's Story (1959) **5.50** The Return of Sherlock Holmes **7.00** Lewis. A professor is killed on Halloween. Last in the series. **9.00** Midsomer Murders **11.00** Ghostboat

ITV4
4.30 Police, Camera, Action! **5.00** Live Tennis. The Statoil Masters. **8.00** River Monsters **9.00 Film:** The Quest (1996) Action adventure, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme. **11.00 Film:** On Deadly Ground (1994)

E4
3.40 The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** The Day the Earth Stood Still (2008) **10.00** Misfits **11.00** The Inbetweeners

Film4
2.45 The Family Stone (2005) **4.50** Local Hero (1983) **7.05** Failure to Launch (2006) Romantic comedy, with Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew McConaughey. **9.00** Alien Resurrection (1997) Sci-fi thriller sequel, starring Sigourney Weaver. **11.10** Chain Reaction (1996)

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What's On!

Film Choices

MONDAY
Mr & Mrs Smith, Channel 5, 9pm
An outwardly bored suburban couple, who lead double lives as professional assassins, are hired to kill one another – a situation that puts some much-needed excitement back into their stale relationship. Comedy adventure, starring Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie. (2005)

Mercury Rising, ITV1, 10.35pm
A top-secret government agency has developed a seemingly unbreakable code – only for an autistic boy to crack it in an instant. Assassins succeed in gunning down his parents, but a maverick FBI agent investigating their deaths finds the child hiding in a closet, and resolves to shield him from the hitmen on his trail. Thriller, starring Bruce Willis. (1998)

TUESDAY
A Simple Plan, BBC1, 11.50pm
Two brothers and a friend stumble on a fortune in unmarked small dollar bills in the wreckage of a plane and decide to squirrel it away for themselves. However, the strain of keeping the cache secret takes its toll as guilt, paranoia and greed change their relationship for ever. Sam Raimi's psychological thriller, starring Bill Paxton and Billy Bob Thornton. (1998)

The Expendables, Wednesday, Channel 5, 10pm

WEDNESDAY
The Expendables, Channel 5, 10pm
A mercenary leads his elite team on a mission to assassinate a South American dictator, only to find their target is merely a pawn and the real power in the country is a rogue CIA agent. Feeling they have been double-crossed, they abandon the operation – but are compelled to return and save a captured rebel. Action thriller, directed by and starring Sylvester Stallone. (2010)

THURSDAY
The Bounty Hunter, Channel 4, 1.05pm
A professional manhunter searches for three murderous train robbers who have taken cover in a backwoods town, but is unable to identify the killers among the community's residents. Meanwhile, the fugitives are aware of his arrival, and tensions begin to rise. Western, starring Randolph Scott and Ernest Borgnine. (1954)

FRIDAY
Hard Target, ITV1, 11.10pm
A woman searching for her missing father hires an out-of-work merchant sailor to guide her through the streets of New Orleans, where his martial arts skills are greatly tested in a series of encounters with sadistic hunters of human prey. John Woo's action thriller, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme and Wilford Brimley. (1993)

Pick of the Week

Hopefuls aim to shine as a new star is born

On Saturday, August 18, 2012, a few million hearts sank. The X Factor was back, which meant summer was over, and by the time the series finished, Christmas would almost be on us.

Did we really need another three-and-a-half month talent search looking for the next One Direction or Leona Lewis? Did we have to put up with 18 weekends dominated by the show which dominated primetime Saturdays and Sundays on ITV?

Some people thought we didn't, because the show launched with the lowest ratings since 2006, and later started losing viewers to rival show Strictly Come Dancing. Yes, despite the millions of pounds Simon Cowell and ITV pumped into the show, a modest public-funded show featuring an 84-year-old host gave The X Factor a good run for its money.

To paraphrase Bruce Forsyth, didn't Strictly do well?

But if familiarity had bred contempt, there was no denying TXF's class of 2012 did a great job of making up for the ad breaks and Dermot O'Leary hurrying the judges for an answer on Sunday nights (despite having padded out the results show for the past 55 minutes).

Thousands of wannabe stars entered the auditions stage between May 23 and June 25, but only 211 reached boot camp. The shortlist was eventually whittled down to 13 finalists. Carolynne Poole, Melanie Masson, MK1 and Jade Ellis were voted out in the first four weeks, while Lucy Spraggan dropped out in week five due to ill health.

That same week we also said goodbye to Kye Sones, who failed to win over the masses, and by week six, boy band District 3 were shown the door.

When Ella Henderson was voted off the show on November 18, millions of fans around the country gasped in disbelief.

The 16-year-old had belted out the performance of her life on the show a day earlier, and it looked like she was a dead cert to either win TXF, or at least make it through to this final. How wrong we all were.

The pride of Grimsby graciously admitted defeat, while Tulisa struggled to come to terms with what had just happened.

That left Union J, Christopher Maloney, Jahmene Douglas, Rylan Clark (voted out on November 25) and James Arthur.

Now the real questions are: how are the producers going to make a glorified sing-off between three people last two hours?

Can we get through the Manchester-based finale without any judge using the phrase "My act has been on a real journey"?

And will Dermot give us one last dance of the series before the set is packed up for another year?

All shall be revealed as Tulisa, Gary Barlow, Louis Walsh and Nicole Scherzinger take to the stage, while I'm A Celebrity… bosses consider what trials they could put Rylan though next year if he decamps to the jungle.

Whatever happens, it should be 'Jahmazing' – as long as you pre-record the first hour, fast-forward through the recaps, and then watch Sunday's results live.

The judges offer their opinion in The X Factor, Saturday, ITV1, 8pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY
The All New Gadget Show
Channel 5, 8pm
Jason Bradbury and Pollyanna Woodward are in a rather unique Marseille hotel where every room is an individual bubble hidden in the woods. What better place to try out the latest mini-projectors? The duo are then Cannes-bound in a yellow Ferrari so they can test a range of high-end sat-navs. And if you are lucky enough to be driving one of the world's most sought after cars in one of the planet's most desirable locations, you may as well stop off in St Tropez to take a few snaps. Of course, these aren't any old photos. They are taken with digital single-lens reflex cameras. Nice work if you can get it.

The Poison Tree
ITV1, 9pm
After appearing in White Heat earlier this year, MyAnna Buring takes the lead role in this new two-part thriller, which also takes place in two different time frames. In the present day, Karen Clarke (Buring) is waiting for her partner Rex (Matthew Goode) to be released from prison after serving a 12-year prison sentence so they and their 11-year-old daughter can finally become a family. We also flash back to the summer of 1999, when student Karen meets Rex and his glamorous sister Biba (Ophelia Lovibond) and finds herself caught up in their hedonistic party lifestyle. However, the relationships between the trio become increasingly intense and tangled, setting the scene for tragedy and murder.

TUESDAY
Is Our Weather Getting Worse?
Channel 4, 8pm
It's an age-old joke that we Brits do nothing but gripe about the weather, but this year, we've certainly been given reason to complain. We were gripped by unrelenting drought at the beginning of the year, a time which saw hosepipe bans and our wildlife was almost on the verge of environmental disaster. But come April, violent storms brought about the wettest summer on record for 100 years, and the headlines and TV news bulletins were awash with the dramatic toll it had taken on our battered country. This programme explores the past 12 months of unpredictable weather through use of dramatic archive footage, expert interviews and cutting-edge graphics.

WEDNESDAY
Chris Tarrant: Extreme Railways
Channel 5, 9pm
Chris Tarrant is exceptionally passionate about this week's episode when he discovers the wonders of Australia. "We went from Adelaide right down the bottom right the way up to Darwin, so literally we went right up the continent," he explains, still jet lagged. "We started off with a quite elegant new train, and then at one point we had to get on a steam train, which was quite fun, because I'm loading the furnace with coal. B****y hard work!" Tarrant and the small production crew then 'got a four-wheeled drive and took a 'bouncy light aircraft', then arrived at Alice Springs, where they were supposed to get a nice train to do the last bit. However, not everything went to plan.

British Comedy Awards 2012
Channel 4, 9pm
This year, the nation has been more interested in feeling all patriotic than having a massive laugh, but that's not to say that we haven't enjoyed ourselves in between feeling all misty-eyed about our nation while celebrating the Queen's diamond jubilee and supporting the UK's athletes as they went for gold at the Olympics. Perhaps to reflect the jingoistic nature of 2012, it would be fitting if BBC Four's sitcom Twenty Twelve retained the title of Best Sitcom it won last year. Other successful programmes and personalities in 2011 included Shooting Stars, Darren Boyd and Miranda Hart. But who will follow in their footsteps? Now, that would be telling...

The Poison Tree, Monday, ITV1, 9pm

THURSDAY
Young Apprentice
BBC1, 8pm
What will the aspiring Young Apprentices ask for this Christmas – computer games, a new power suit or the chance to move a step closer to their ultimate goal of world domination? If Santa can't help with the latter request, then maybe Alan Sugar can, as the teens battle it out for a place in the final. To get there, they are going to have to select products to sell at Womad, the world music festival which is attended by almost 40,000 fans. One team hope to clean up with a pedal-powered washing machine, while the others plump for a portable toilet. For the winners, there isn't just a random treat on offer, but a guaranteed place in the final.

FRIDAY
A Night of Heroes – The Military Awards
ITV1, 9pm
London's Imperial War Museum hosts one of the most special awards nights on the calendar. Nicknamed the Millies, it recognises the excellence and sacrifices made by those serving in the British Armed Forces. Phillip Schofield and Amanda Holden host the ceremony, while celebrities such as Jeremy Clarkson, Mark Cavendish and Frank Lampard will be in attendance. The identities of this year's winners are being kept a secret for now, but you can bet there won't be a dry eye in the house when they're announced and those involved's amazing stories are told. It may be a cliché on the night, but even those who don't go home with a trophy are winners – there are certainly no losers here.

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Brain Gym

No.198

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.

	12		11			7		23	15	22	20	19
4	6	21	15	18	1	9		9			15	
	21		2			14		24	14	2	8	9
7	21	21	17	2	18	9	26	26				10
	22				21			25		15		2
1	19	25	18	2	13	9		22	2	12	3	24
		18				5				6		
26	18	9	25	16		9	18	1	14	19	20 P	24
15		7		21			21				25 A	
9				26	9	1	14	9	24	25	14	19
24	3	2	12	3		21			15		6	
	15			9		1	3	15	4	4	9	13
15	22	8	9	14		16			24		19	

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20 P
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25 A
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1 E	2 G	3 P	4 Z	5 Y	6 H	7 D	8 T	9 I	10 N	11 Q	12 U	13 S
14 F	15 B	16 C	17 W	18 M	19 R	20 K	21 A	22 X	23 J	24 L	25 V	26 O

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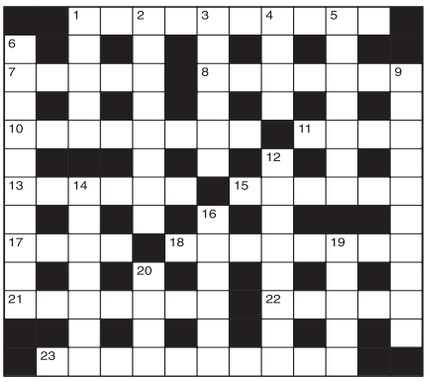
Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. One may be so and still have dress-sense! (7-3)
7. Circular belt of gas (5)
8. Directions permit a bird (7)
10. Made about a thousand to be burned (8)
11. Just what you expect from the villain! (4)
13. A diminutive person - or a ten-footer! (6)
15. Insect upset Barsac (6)
17. Mark of the devil? (4)
18. A new look for cars here (8)
21. Some leavers reform (7)
22. Mother and boy in the building trade (5)
23. Old mathematician made riches in a way (10)

Down

1. Not far from the cathedral precincts (5)
2. With which to welcome honest members (4,4)
3. Rush from Athens (6)
4. Lead when I get out of step (4)
5. It's finished everywhere (3,4)
6. Pieces of light music? (5,5)
9. Fit after trailing badly (4,6)
12. Uttered a cry to make me scared (8)
14. Feel better and get dressed again? (7)
16. Ambled into a madhouse (6)
19. Even energetic billiard players may need them! (5)
20. Pointless search for a way through (4)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Alfresco (3-2-5)
7. Tree (5)
8. Large dog (7)
10. Goodbye (8)
11. Grudge (4)
13. Crowd (6)
15. Blush (6)
17. Grasp (4)
18. Underground cemetery (8)
21. Certificate (7)
22. Boxing ring (5)
23. Bearing (10)

Down

1. Command (5)
2. Hurling (8)
3. Woman (6)
4. Eject (4)
5. Ruled (7)
6. Unnatural (3-7)
9. Sea-plane (6-4)
12. Sever (8)
14. Slip back (7)
16. Empty (6)
19. Apparent (5)
20. Unaccompanied (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 6 Hot cake; 7 Nomad; 9 Era; 10 Upper case; 12 Break the law; 15 Latin master; 17 Realistic; 19 Pro; 21 Noise; 22 Nothing. Down: 1 Board; 2 Ace; 3 Skip; 4 Concreted; 5 Oarsman; 8 Berths; 11 Fruitless; 13 Almost; 14 Care for; 16 Arena; 18 Iron; 20 Shy. QUICK - Across: 6 Quicken; 7 Debar; 9 Old; 10 Attenuate; 12 Deferential; 15 Exhortation; 17 Communion; 19 Ill; 21 Unity; 22 Rejoice. Down: 1 Guile; 2 Act; 3 Zest; 4 Deduction; 5 Partial; 8 Desert; 11 Deformity; 13 Extend; 14 Expound; 16 Slack; 18 Over; 20 Vow.

Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

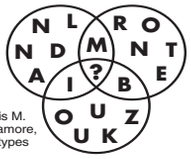
	7		1		2		5	
			8		5	4		
4		2						8
		9	5		7	3		
	2			8			9	
		7	9		6	2		
1				5				3
	3		7		4		6	
	8		2		3		1	

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	2	8	6	4	9	3	1	7
4	9	7	2	3	1	6	8	5
1	3	6	8	7	5	4	2	9
6	1	3	5	8	2	7	9	4
7	8	9	3	1	4	2	5	6
2	5	4	9	6	7	8	3	1
3	7	1	4	9	8	5	6	2
8	4	2	1	5	6	9	7	3
9	6	5	7	2	3	1	4	8

Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION: The letter represented by the question mark is M. Bergamot, sycamore, mahogany, all types of tree.

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£575 pcm
End Terrace Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Bathroom, Two Double Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished

KINGSWINFORD

KAYNE CLOSE
£595 pcm
Semi Detached Bungalow, Lounge, Kitchen, Utility, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens

KINGSWINFORD

FREELAND GROVE
£575 pcm
Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking

WORDSLEY

LAWNSWOOD ROAD
£610 pcm
Terraced Cottage, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, Two Double Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Rear Garden

PENSNETT

HIGH STREET
£425 pcm
First Floor Flat, Entrance, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished

WALL HEATH

FELLOWS AVENUE
£725 pcm
Detached Property, Two Reception Rooms, Kitchen/Diner, Utility Area, WC, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Large Gardens, Off Road Parking, Garage

WORDSLEY

HAMILTON DRIVE
£625 pcm
Semi Detached Property. Lounge, Kitchen, Dining Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Single Garage.

PENSNETT

HIGH OAK
£525 pcm
Semi-Detached Property. Lounge, Kitchen, WC, Bathroom with Shower, Three Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished. No Pets.

GORNAL

HIMLEY ROAD
£675 pcm
Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms. Bathroom, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking, Single Garage, Front & Rear Gardens.

KINGSWINFORD

GREENFIELDS ROAD
£650 pcm
Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished

DUDLEY

STOURBRIDGE ROAD
£525 pcm
Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking

NETHERTON

PARK ROAD
£325 pcm
Ground floor flat, lounge, kitchen, one bedroom, bathroom, off road parking. Unfurnished.

KINGSWINFORD

LABURNUM ROAD
£460 pcm
End Terrace Property. Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Off Road Parking, Rear Garden.

BRIERLEY HILL

DADFORD VIEW
£460 pcm
Cluster Home. Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating

WORDSLEY

INGATESTONE DRIVE
£510 pcm
Purpose Built Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Unfurnished, Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking

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Top guide for Dudley, Halesowen, Sedgley, Kidderminster, Stourbridge

Stableford Hall, set in fabulous grounds, has been divided into seven apartments

One of the four spacious bedrooms at the elegant Georgian home

A good-sized dining room, ideal for entertaining large families

Select hall apartment and live in splendour

AN elegant apartment in prestigious Stableford Hall, some six miles from Bridgnorth, is for sale on a leasehold basis priced at £335,000.

Stableford Hall is a magnificent Georgian property, set within delightful grounds and comprising seven apartments. Accessed via an impressive communal entrance hall, the four bedroom apartment is on the first floor and has a number of period features including high ceilings, cornicing and fireplaces with marble surrounds.

There is a spacious hallway leading to the drawing room, with a bay window offering fine views over the surrounding grounds.

The good-sized dining room provides good space for entertaining while the well equipped kitchen gives access to a roof terrace at the rear of the property.

The master bedroom is double aspect with views over the lawns and has fitted wardrobes and an en suite bathroom, and there are three more bedrooms and a family shower room. Stableford Hall is accessed over a gravelled drive leading to a turning circle and beyond to garaging and parking.

The grounds are beautifully maintained with large areas of lawn, well-stocked flower borders and mature trees – and there is a service charge for the hall and grounds of £192.25 per calendar month. For further details contact Strutt & Parker on 01743 284200.

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to include (unless previously sold or withdrawn)

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DPS APIP NAEA The Property Ombudsman OFT

Tividale DARBYS HILL ROAD

A two bedroom detached bungalow with lounge, kitchen, driveway and garden to the rear

£134,950

Dudley CARDONESS PLACE

NEW INSTRUCTION

A two bedroom mid terraced house in immaculate condition throughout with lounge, dining kitchen, upstairs bathroom, driveway to teh front and garden to the rear

£109,950

Dudley WOODLAND AVENUE

NEW INSTRUCTION

A three bedroom semi detached house with two reception rooms, kitchen, downstairs shower, upstairs bathroom, gardens to the front and rear, garage and driveway

£119,950

BILSTON Cumberland Road

A one bedroom first floor apartment with hallway, lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom and secure entry system

£59,950

Sedgley QUEENS ROAD

NEW INSTRUCTION

A three bedroom detached house with hallway, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, driveway, gardens to the front and rear and garage.

£174,950

Tipton UPPER CHURCH LANE

NEW INSTRUCTION

A three bedroom semi detached house with lounge, dining room, kitchen, conservatory, upstairs bathroom, driveway and garden to the rear

£99.950

Dudley HIMLEY ROAD

NEW PRICE

An impressive five bedroom semi detached house set in an elevated position with amazing views. The house briefly comprises of lounge, dining room, third reception room, fitted kitchen, cellar, utility room, shower room, further bathroom on first floor, driveway to the rear, garage and garden

£184,950

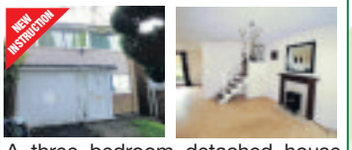
LOWER GORNAL Peak Drive

A two bedroom apartment with secure entry system, lounge, fitted kitchen, shower room, communal gardens and allocated parking

£57,500

Dudley KEW DRIVE

NEW INSTRUCTION



A three bedroom detached house with porch, lounge with dining area, driveway, garden to the rear and garage

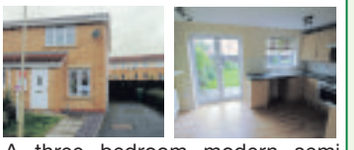
£134,950

TIPTON Field Road

A spacious three / four bedroom detached bungalow with lounge with dining area, office/4th bedroom, fitted kitchen, shower room, detached tandem garage, front and rear gardens and off road parking.

£159,950

Netherton THE LUKES



A three bedroom modern semi detached house with lounge, fitted kitchen, downstairs wc, gardens to the front and rear and driveway

£119,950

Oldbury REGAN DRIVE

An immaculately presented three bedroom detached house with hallway, lounge, dining area, conservatory, fitted kitchen, en-suite to master bedroom, driveway, garage and gardens to the front and rear

£179,950

TIVIDALE Hoylake Drive

Located in this highly desirable location this three bedroom detached house briefly comprises of lounge, dining area, fitted kitchen, gardens to the front and rear, driveway and garage.

£164,950

WINTER DEAL

From *1st November 2012* we are offering a special deal for all houses coming onto the market.

Fixed fee of £1750 plus VAT

No Sale No Fee

EPC Cost **£45**

CALL NOW TO ARRANGE A NO OBLIGATION HONEST FREE MARKET APPRAISAL

DUDLEY Selborne Road

An impressive three storey traditional four bedroom end terraced house with hallway, through lounge and dining area, kitchen with dining area, cellar, utility room, downstairs wc, garage and garden to the rear

£139,950

DUDLEY King Street

TO LET

A modern 1 bed first floor flat, with double glazing and central heating, fitted kitchen/diner/lounge with cooker, double bedroom, bathroom with bath and mixer shower. Unfurnished, available now. Dss considered with guarantor

£300PCM

TIVIDALE St Michaels Mews

TO LET

A modern, ground floor one bedroom apartment, having a bedroom, bathroom, and open plan lounge/diner/kitchen, double glazing, storage heating. Available for long term, no DSS, no pets.

£360 PCM

SMETHWICK Cape Hill

NEW INSTRUCTION

A one bed first floor apartment in the town centre of Smethwick with double glazing and electric heating. Having a good sized lounge, separate shower room and WC, kitchen. Unfurnished, available for long term. No pets.

£370PCM

DUDLEY Castle Street

TO LET

A first floor apartment in the town centre of Dudley. Having a large lounge, fitted kitchen and bathroom with shower over the bath. Two double bedrooms. No pets. Unfurnished, available to view now. No parking.

£395PCM

STOURBRIDGE Hemplands Road

TO LET

An unfurnished, one bed ground floor flat, clean and tidy, having a lounge, bedroom, bathroom with shower, fitted kitchen, storage heating, double glazing. Small patio/garden to rear. Walking distance from Stourbridge town centre.

£395 PCM

DUDLEY Abberley Street

NEW PRICE

A first floor two bed apartment with double glazing and central heating, walking distance of Dudley Town. Having two double bedrooms, a lounge/diner and fitted kitchen. Unfurnished, available now. DSS considered with guarantor.

£420 PCM

TIPTON Warren Close

TO LET

A refurbished one bedroom 1st floor flat. Good sized lounge, fitted kitchen with built in oven & hob, new fridge/freezer. New bathroom with walk in shower unit. Double bedroom to the rear. New central heating/boiler. No Dss. No Pets. Available now.

£425 PCM

DUDLEY Pages Croft

TO LET

A modern third floor two bed apartment having open plan lounge/diner/fitted kitchen, master with en-suite shower/WC and a house bathroom/WC, allocated off road parking. Unfurnished, available now for viewing.

£525 PCM

TIVIDALE Elizabeth Mews

TO LET

Two bedroom semi-detached house located in cul de sac. New fitted kitchen with brand new oven/hob. New bathroom with shower. Central heating & double glazing. Enclosed rear garden. Unfurnished. No Dss. No Pets. Available now

£540 PCM

BRIERLEY HILL Bradleymore Road

NEW INSTRUCTION

A three bed terrace house with fitted kitchen, separate utility room, downstairs bathroom/WC, two double bedrooms on the first floor and a third room in the attic with velux window. Garden to rear, no pets, DSS accepted.

£550 PCM

DUDLEY Maple Road

NEW INSTRUCTION

A recently refurbished 3 bed semi-detached house on a corner plot with central heating. A through lounge, fitted kitchen, downstairs bathroom. Upstairs has a house WC/shower room. Unfurnished, available for long term. No Dss. No pets

£575PCM

DUDLEY Woodland Avenue

NEW INSTRUCTION

A three bedroon family home. Two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, utility area to rear with shower and separate WC, upstairs has house bathroom/WC with shower over the bath. Driveway to front, garage. No DSS,no pets. Available now to view.

£595PCM

DUDLEY Parkes Hall Road

TO LET

A modern three bedroom end terraced townhouse. Lounge/diner, kitchen, cloakroom, on the ground floor, master bedroom with en-suite. Allocated parking to the side and garden to rear. Available to view now, unfurnished.

£625 PCM

DUDLEY Pebworth Grove

NEW PRICE

Nicely presented five bedroom house. Lounge, large dining area with fitted kitchen. Master bedroom with en -suite. Main bathroom with corner spa bath and separate shower. Detached out building ideal for office. Unfurnished. No Dss. Small pet considered.

£775 PCM

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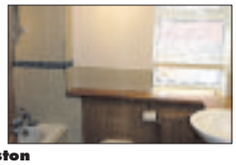


Bilston
Highfields Drive
- Two bed semi detached bungalow
- GCH & DG
- Fully fitted kitchen with appliances
- Utility room
- Rear garden & ORP

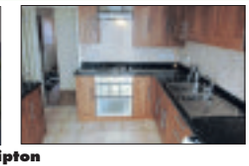
£550 pcm

Rowley Regis
Powke Lane
- Four bed detached home
- FF Kitchen with appliances
- GCH & DG
- Rear garden and ORP
- Available January
- Initial contract for 12 months

£795pcm

Kingswinford
Ibis Gardens
- Three bed detached house
- Fully fitted kitchen
- Conservatory.
- CH & DG
- Garage

£695pcm



Tipton
Colville Close
- Four Bed Detached House
- GCH & DG. Conservatory
- Fitted kitchen
- Master Bedroom with en suite
- Private rear gardens
- ORP

£675pcm

Dudley
High Park Close
- Three bedroom family home
- Kitchen with appliances
- Bathroom with bath & seperate shower

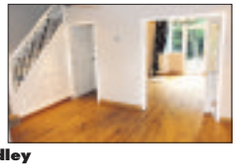
£650pcm

Dudley
Madison Avenue
- Three bed town house
- Lounge
- Downstairs WC
- Fully fitted kitchen
- Master bedroom is ensuite
- Available Immediately

£625pcm

West Bromwich
Tame Street
- Three bed detached house
- CH & DG
- Private rear garden
- Kitchen with appliances
- Bathroom with shower
- ORP

£595pcm



Dudley
Forest Road
- Three bed semi detached house
- Tranquil position backing onto woodland
- CH & DG. Open plan lounge
- Separate dining room. Fitted kitchen
- Garage and parking space

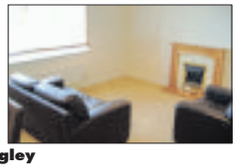
£550pcm

Tipton
Kirkham Way
- Freshly decorated three bed semi
- CH & DG
- Fitted kitchen with oven and hob
- Private rear garden
- Available immediately

£550pcm

Tipton
Ferguson Drive
- Two Bed mid terrace
- GCH & DG
- Kitchen with appliances
- Rear Garden

£525pcm



Sedgley
North One Mews
- Two bed ground floor aprt
- Fully Furnished
- Kitchen with appliances
- Communal Grounds
- ORP

£520pcm

Wednesbury
Darby Road
- Redecorated traditional style house
- Hall. Lounge. Fully fitted kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Separate dining room.
- Bathroom with shower

£495pcm

Bilston
Bradley Lane
- Three bed semi
- Fitted kitchen with appliances
- CH and DG
- Bathroom with shower

£475pcm

Dudley
Russells Hall Road
- Three bed semi
- GCH
- Kitchen with cooker
- Bath and shower facilities

£475pcm

Willenhall
Regent Street
- Two bed end terraced house
- Two reception rooms
- Fitted kitchen
- Bathroom with shower

£450pcm

Willenhall
Lawrence Street
- Three bed semi
- Unfurnished
- Fitted kitchen/diner
- Bathroom with bath and shower
- ORP

£450pcm

Tipton
Nock Street
- Ground floor two bed maisonette
- GCH and DG
- Fitted kitchen with oven and hob
- Refitted Bathroom with shower
- Rear garden
- Available immediately

£450pcm

Willenhall
Gipsy Lane
- Two bed detached bungalow
- CH & DG
- Unfurnished
- Bathroom with separate shower cubicle
- Rear garden with shed
- Off road parking

£450pcm

Tipton
Great Meadow
- One bed coach house
- Fully fitted kitchen. DG & CH
- Spacious lounge. Alarmed
- Private rear garden
- Garage

£450pcm

Coseley
Roseville Court
- Attractive SF flat
- Two bedrooms
- Kitchen with appliances
- Spacious living room
- Bathroom with shower
- Convenient to Coseley village

£375pcm

Dudley
Viewfield Crescent
- One bed first floor apartment
- DG
- Kitchen with oven & fridge
- Bathroom with shower
- Available immediately
- Housing benefits considered

£375pcm

Dudley
Bilston Street
- One bed maisonette
- Popular location
- Fitted kitchen
- Double bedroom
- Bathroom

£350pcm

Kingswinford
Ragees Road
- Charming one bed ground floor studio flat
- Lounge with feature fireplace
- Fully Furnished
- Bathroom with shower cubicle
- Double glazed throughout
- Kitchen with appliances

£350pcm

The master bedroom includes fitted wardrobes and additional storage

A display sill sets off the lounge at this Pendeford first floor maisonette

Rees Page is handling the sale of this three-bed property in Pendeford

The second of three bedrooms at 14 Fallowfield, on the market now

First floor maisonette

A PURPOSE-built first floor maisonette style apartment, part of a block of six in a quiet cul-de-sac, is on the market for £62,499.

Available through Rees Page, the property has an entrance porch rising to a landing. Off this is the living room with display sill to window; kitchen with a range of wall and base units; three bedrooms – two having fitted wardrobes and a shower room with WC and wash basin. Outside, to the front, there is a small gravelled area with paved garden. Parking is by way of communal bays and the property is offered with no upward chain. The lease is 125 years as of 1989. Ground rent of £10 per annum is payable.

For more details, or to view the property, contact the agent on 01902 577799.

K.Stuart Swash

PROPERTY AUCTION

9 KENT STREET, WALSALL

Well located Terraced House
Two Reception,
large Kitchen, Bathroom,
Three Bedrooms

Guide: £55,000/£60,000

VIEWING
THURSDAY & FRIDAY,
6th & 7th DECEMBER
@11.30 a.m.

AUCTION

11th December

33 MILTON ROAD, COSELEY

Generously proportioned
Three Bed Semi.,
With Lounge, spacious Dining
Kitchen, Cloakroom with w.c.
Upstairs Bathroom, Gas C.H.,
Outside Store, Front and
Rear Gardens

Guide: £73,000/£78,000

VIEWING
THURSDAY & FRIDAY,
6th & 7th DECEMBER
@ 10.45 a.m. & SATURDAY,
8th DECEMBER @ 12.00 noon

157 STUBBY LANE, WEDNESFIELD

Spacious and large Detached House with Gas C.H., Double Entrance Drive, enclosed Porch, Hall, Store off, Lounge, Dining Room, big Kitchen, Pantry and Store, Rear Lobby with w.c. off wide Landing, Four Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with white fittings. Separate w.c., Side access to Hall, large Study/Office, Kitchen, Cloakroom with wc and handbasin, Garage, Gardens

Guide: £115,000/£125,000

VIEWING
(Torch needed, bring your own)
FRIDAY & SATURDAY,
7th & 8th DECEMBER
@ 9.00 a.m.

67 UPPER ETTINGSHALL ROAD, COSELEY
POTENTIAL BUILDING PLOT

Planning Permission granted - but now expired - for erection of Detached House to offer Three Bedrooms (one en suite), Reception, Kitchen, Car Port

Guide: £28,000/£33,000

174 STAFFORD STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON

Freehold Shop Premises in busy location with Two Flats over

Shop vacant. Flats let currently producing £9,180 p.a.x.

Guide: £125,000/£135,000

VIEWING

THURSDAY & FRIDAY,
6th & 7th DECEMBER
@ 1.00 p.m.

4 NEW BUILDINGS, STAFFORD ROAD, COVEN HEATH

With open outlooks to front and rear - a large Mid Terraced with Gas C.H.

Enclosed Porch, Two Reception, long Kitchen, Utility area, Two Double Bedrooms, white Bathroom, Outside Store, long Rear Garden abutting fields

Guide: £73,000/£78,000

VIEWING
FRIDAY & SATURDAY,
7th & 8th DECEMBER
@ 11.00 a.m.

47 THE LINDENS, NEWBRIDGE, WOLVERHAMPTON

Ground Floor Flat with access to Gardens to rear, Private Hall, Lounge with garden door, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage

Guide: £52,000/£55,000

VIEWING
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 7th & 8th DECEMBER
@ 10.00 a.m.

FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION

(subject to conditions and prior sale)

on TUESDAY 11th DECEMBER 2012 @ 6.30 p.m.
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VIEWING OF ALL LOTS AT OWN RISK

Please Note: Viewings are at times specified so, should you arrive late, you may find your viewing time is limited or that we have moved on in order to maintain the time schedule.

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CP BIGWOOD BOND WOLFE AUCTIONS

AUCTION

12th December 2012
11am At Holte Suite,
Aston Villa Football Ground

105 Lots To Include 4 late Entries and Lots On Behalf Of:

Sandwell · Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council · Wolverhampton City Council · Ministry of Justice

Lot 1	Former Neighbourhood Premises at Junction of St Annes Road/Lower High Street, Cradley Heath, West Midlands	Commercial Vacant
Lot 2	Former Neighbourhood Premises Corner of Sheepwash Lane & Whitehall Road, Great Bridge, Tipton	Commercial Vacant
Lot 3	Former Neighbourhood Office Clifton Lane, West Bromwich, West Midlands	Commercial Vacant
Lot 4	Former Nightclub/Restaurant Premises Adj, 4 Lombard Street West, West Bromwich, West Midlands	Commercial Vacant
Lot 5	Land at Junction of Dingle Street & Dingle Hollow, Oldbury, West Midlands	Land
Lot 6	Land Adj. 75 Florence Road, West Bromwich, West Midlands	Land
Lot 7	Land Adjoining 107 & 109 Highfield Road, Tipton	Land
Lot 8	Land Adj. 20 Holden Road, Wednesbury	Land
Lot 9	Land Between 8 & 10 Melrose Avenue, West Bromwich, West Midlands	Land
Lot 10	Former 107-115 Pottery Road, Oldbury, West Midlands	Land
Lot 11	Site at 40 South Road, Smethwick, West Midlands	Land
Lot 12	Land Adj. 129 Stony Lane, Smethwick, West Midlands	Land
Lot 13	Land at Junction of Vittoria Street & Wellington Street, Smethwick, West Midlands	NOT BEING OFFERED
Lot 14	Land at Corner of Windmill Street/Windmill Terrace, Wednesbury	Land
Lot 15	70 Beckett Street, Bilston	Residential Vacant
Lot 16	43 Stratton Street, Wolverhampton	Residential Vacant
Lot 17	19 Woodford Avenue, Castle Bromwich, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 17a	5 High Street, Amblecote, Stourbridge	SOLD PRIOR
Lot 18	34 Pedmore Walk, Oldbury, West Midlands	Commercial / Residential Vacant
Lot 19	7a Coventry Road, Coleshill, West Midlands	Commercial Vacant
Lot 20	The Punchbowl, Tuttle Hill, Nuneaton	Commercial Vacant
Lot 21	17 Naden Road, Hockley, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 22	38 Brickhouse Lane South, Great Bridge	Residential Vacant
Lot 23	The Willows, 190 Victoria Road, Aston, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 24	55 Albert Road, Wolverhampton	Residential Vacant
Lot 25	Land Adj. Alexandra Street & Edward Street, Dudley	NOT BEING OFFERED
Lot 26	The Bird In Hand, 942 London Road, Stoke-on-Trent	Commercial Vacant
Lot 27	The Spring Cottage, 60 Elmore Green Road, Bloxwich	Commercial Vacant
Lot 28	Somerset Surgery, Somerset Road, Stoke-on-Trent	Commercial Vacant
Lot 29	16 Sarehole Road, Hall Green, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 30	46 Bhylls Lane, Wolverhampton	Residential Vacant
Lot 31	The Stepping Stones, Birmingham Road, Stourbridge	Commercial Vacant
Lot 32	The Crown Inn, Old Chester Road South, Kidderminster	Commercial Vacant
Lot 33	49 The Uplands, Smethwick, West Midlands	Residential Vacant
Lot 34	Former Office at R/o Petersbourne Court, Petersfield Commercial Vacant/ Road Hall Green, Birmingham	Development
Lot 35	Land at Chetwynd Street, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent	Land
Lot 35A	Land at Frome Valley Haulage Depot, Bishops Frome, Worcester	Land
Lot 36	26 Tipton Road, Dudley	Residential Vacant
Lot 37	44 Vera Road, Yardley, Birmingham	NOT BEING OFFERED
Lot 38	42 Station Road, Handsworth, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 39	146 Melton Road, Solihull, West Midlands	Residential Vacant
Lot 40	Squires Scrapyard, Common Road, Evesham, Worcestershire	Commercial Vacant
Lot 40A	12 St Michael Street, Walsall	Residential Vacant
Lot 41	40 Simcox Road, Wednesbury	Residential Vacant
Lot 42	81-83 Stafford Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent	Commercial Vacant
Lot 43	The Railway Inn, 96 Bromford Road, West Bromwich, West Midlands	Commercial Vacant
Lot 44	The Vauxhall, Abbey Road, Evesham, Worcestershire	Commercial Vacant
Lot 44A	Beach Trade Centre, 130a Stoney Lane, Sparkhill, Birmingham	Commercial Investment
Lot 45	28 Wychbold Crescent, Kitts Green, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 46	66 Round Street, Dudley	Residential Vacant
Lot 47	2 Glenthorne Road, Erdington, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 48	13 Birmingham New Road, Tipton	SOLD PRIOR
Lot 49	Painters Cottage, 30 Avenue Road, Coseley	Residential Vacant
Lot 50	3 Byron Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands	Residential Vacant
Lot 51	The Grove, off Daisy Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 51a	The Greyhound, 20 Bargates, Whitchurch, Shropshire	LATE ENTRY Commercial Vacant
Lot 51b	The Hollybush, Main Street, Netherseal, Swadlincote	LATE ENTRY Commercial Vacant
Lot 51c	The Railway Inn, Peasehill Road, Ripley, Derbyshire	LATE ENTRY Commercial Vacant
Lot 51d	The Royal Oak, Cotmanhay Road, Ilkeston, Derbyshire	LATE ENTRY Commercial Vacant
Lot 52	63 Weston Drive, Bilston	Residential Investment
Lot 53	8 New Street, Tipton	Residential Vacant
Lot 54	Bar Gate Cottages, Bar Gate, Newark	Residential Investment
Lot 55	The Bell Inn, Bell Lane, Kitts Green, Birmingham	Commercial Vacant
Lot 56	31 Brian Road, Smethwick, West Midlands	Residential Vacant
Lot 57	33 Brian Road, Smethwick, West Midlands	Residential Vacant
Lot 58	223 Bushbury Lane, Wolverhampton	Residential Vacant
Lot 59	563-565 Warwick Road, Tyseley, Birmingham	Commercial/Residential Investment
Lot 60	137 Lode Lane, Solihull, West Midlands	Residential Vacant
Lot 61	Vulcan Works, Hayes Lane, Stourbridge	Commercial Vacant
Lot 62	104 Neville Road, Erdington, Birmingham	SOLD PRIOR
Lot 63	63 Elm Terrace, Tividale, West Midlands Residential Vacant	NOT BEING OFFERED
Lot 64	Drogheda, 978 Perhsore Road, Selly Park, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 65	20 Great Bridge Road, Bilston	Residential Vacant
Lot 66	122/122A Hawthorn Road, Kingstanding, Birmingham	Commercial/ Residential Vacant
Lot 67	180 Wolverhampton Street, Bilston	Land
Lot 68	4 Lyng Lane, West Bromwich, West Midlands	Commercial Vacant
Lot 69	5 Rudd Close, off Dace Road, Worcester, Worcestershire	Residential Investment
Lot 70	4 Timothy Road, Tividale, West Midlands	Residential Vacant
Lot 71	Unit A Weir Lane, Worcester, Worcestershire	Commercial Vacant
Lot 72	8 Moore Street, Hednesford	Residential Vacant
Lot 73	49 Providence Row, Coseley	Residential Vacant
Lot 74	1 Satchwell Walk, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire	Commercial Vacant
Lot 75	49 Camberley, Beaconview Road, West Bromwich, West Midlands	NOT BEING OFFERED
Lot 75A	119 Camberley, Beaconview Road, West Bromwich, West Midlands	Residential Investment
Lot 76	96 Sir Hiltons Road, West Heath, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 77	67 Highbridge Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands	Residential Vacant
Lot 78	108 Church Road, Bradmore, Wolverhampton	Residential Vacant
Lot 79	Garages at Templemore Drive & Woodfort Road, Great Barr, Birmingham	Garages
Lot 80	Garages at Eliot Way via Newport Road, Stafford	Garages
Lot 81	Station Masters Cottage, 24 Station Road, Hednesford	Residential Investment
Lot 82	31 Ynysfeio Avenue, Treherbert, Mid Glamorgan	Residential Investment
Lot 83	Strategic Land at Portway Hill, Tividale, Oldbury, West Midlands	Land
Lot 84	Strategic Land at Kennford Road, Rowley Regis, Oldbury, West Midlands	Land
Lot 85	212 Poplar Avenue, Edgbaston, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 86	36 Maas Road, Northfield, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 87	141 May Lane, Kings Heath, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 88	17 Bean Road, Dudley	Residential Vacant
Lot 89	27 Windrush Grove, Selly Oak, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 89A	522 Coventry Road, Small Heath, Birmingham	Commercial Vacant
Lot 90	46 Somerset Road, Erdington, Birmingham	Residential Investment
Lot 91	73 Preston Road, Yardley, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 92	53 Park Road, Woodsetton	Residential Vacant
Lot 93	31 Nelson Road, Dudley	Residential Vacant
Lot 94	456 Harborne Park Road, Harborne, Birmingham	Residential Vacant
Lot 95	48 Church Road, Bradmore, Wolverhampton	Residential Investment

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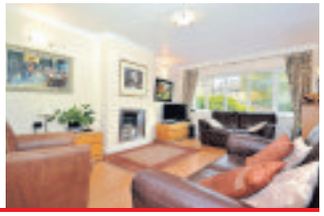
Contact: Edward Mitchell 01384 370232



COLCROFT, HIGH STREET, WALL HEATH, KINGSWINFORD — **Guide Price £259,950**

Well Presented Link-Detached House in a Sought After Village being Ideal for Access to Local Shops and Amenities.

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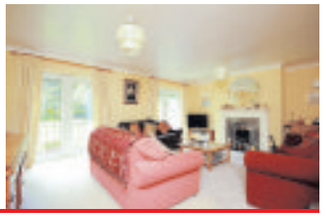
Contact: Anneke Babber 01384 370232



SUMMERCOURT SQUARE, KINGSWINFORD — **Guide Price £369,950**

An Extended And Much Improved Immaculate Detached House At This Extremely Sought After Address

Reception Hall And Study Area, Lounge, Second Reception Room/4th Bedroom, Dining Kitchen, Utility, Downstairs Shower Room, Three Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom, Delightful Rear Garden, Driveway Parking, Garage, Internal Inspection Highly Recommended.

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OAKHAM ROAD, DUDLEY — **Guide Price £119,950**

A Well Maintained Semi Detached Property In Need of Some Cosmetic Updating

The Accommodation Comprises: Sitting Room, Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms & Bathroom, Externally There Is A Garage, Driveway & Rear Garden.

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REGENCY COURT, DIBDALE ROAD WEST, DUDLEY — **Guide Price £149,950**

An Immaculately Presented Ground Floor Exceptional Apartment in a Popular and Convenient Location.

Reception Hall, Sitting Room, Kitchen Diner, Master Bedroom With En-Suite, Bathroom, Two Further Bedrooms And Two Parking Spaces.

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CEDAR GRANGE, ENVILLE ROAD, KINVER, STOURBRIDGE — **Guide Price £142,995 - £179,995**

A Luxury Development of Six Stylish Apartments Located in the Much Sought after Village of Kinver.

The Accommodation Comprises; Large Open Plan Lounge Kitchen Diner, One Large Double Bedroom, First Floor Apartments with a Second Bedroom. Contemporary Bathroom Suites in All Apartments, The Kitchens have Fully Integrated Appliances and the Fixtures and Fittings are to the Highest Standard, Externally there is Allocated and Visitors Parking.

Contact: Anneke Babber 01384 370232

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SEDGLEY

ETTYMORE ROAD

- A most impressive detached residence, close to Sedgley Village
- Offering spacious accommodation
- Two reception rooms
- Breakfast kitchen
- Four double bedrooms
- No Upward Chain
- Viewing essential to appreciate the size and potential of this property

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £249,950

LOWER GORNAL

WINSCARCROFT

- Modern style semi-detached
- Quiet cul-de-sac location
- Contemporary fitted kitchen
- Lounge and conservatory
- Three bedrooms, ensuite to master
- Garage
- Off road parking

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £159,950

HURST HILL, COSELEY

MASLIN DRIVE

- Well maintained traditional family house
- Spacious lounge/dining room
- Extended modern kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- UPVc double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Extra wide garage with utility facitlies at rear
- Off road parking

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £134,950

LANESFIELD

PRUDEN AVENUE

- Semi-detached Bungalow
- Two/Three bedrooms
- Lounge, Dining Room/Study
- Extended to the rear
- Low Maintenance garden
- Driveway parking
- No Upward chain
- VIEWING RECOMMENDED

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £117,995

DUDLEY

DENBEIGH CLOSE

- Stylish & Modern semi-detached
- Generous sized lounge
- Dining kitchen
- Two good size bedrooms
- En-suite off master bedroom
- Upvc double glazed throughout.
- Gas central heating
- Off road parking

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £116,995

UPPER GORNAL

ROCK STREET

- Modernised mid terrace property
- Two reception rooms
- Extended breakfast kitchen
- Two double bedrooms
- Modern upstairs shower room
- Gas Central heating
- Upvc double glazing (majority))
- Internal viewing highly recommended

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £111,950

COSELEY

SPRINGVALE CLOSE

- A superbly presented family home ,Refurbished to a high standard
- Modern kitchen/dining room
- Lounge
- Three good sized bedrooms
- Modern bathroom
- Block paved driveway
- Rear garden with summerhouse
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £109,950

PENSNETT

TILED HOUSE LANE

- Substantially built three bed semi
- Improved throughout
- Good sized lounge
- Modern kitchen and bathroom
- Ensuite to master bedroom
- Upvc double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Extensive rear gardens

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £107,500

DUDLEY PORT

JOHNS LANE

- Modern semi-detached
- Extra large end plot - suitable for development - subject to planning consent
- Lounge, dining kitchen
- Downtairs cloakroom
- Gas central heating
- Double/triple glazed
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

Overs in the region of £99,950

UPPER GORNAL

QUARRY BROW

- An ideal 1st time purchase
- A traditional semi detached
- Modernised throughout
- Dining kitchen
- Store and downstairs wc
- Excellent sized lounge
- Two double bedrooms
- Extra wide driveway

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £94,950

WOODCROSS, COSELEY

BEACH AVENUE

- A traditional three bed semi
- Open plan dining room/lounge
- Good sized kitchen
- Rear lobby and store
- Family bathroom & seperate wc
- Gas central heating
- Majority double glazed
- Off road parking

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THE RIDGEWAY

- TO RENT , one bed flat
- Excellent location
- Close to Sedgley centre
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed windows
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354 HIMLEY ROAD, DUDLEY £259,950

- Improved and extended detached house with four bedrooms
- Deceptive accommodation with upvc double glazing
- En-suite shower room, utility room, two reception rooms
- Well landscaped rear garden with a brick block paved terrace
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

276 NORTHWAY, SEDGLEY £254,950

- Split level detached house with four bedrooms
- Exceptionally well presented and considerably improved
- Spacious, flexible living accommodation, impressive living room
- Private rear garden with views at front to the distant Shropshire Hills
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

7 WOODLAND AVE DUDLEY £249,950

- Extended five bedroom detached residence
- Presented to a high standard throughout
- Lounge/dining room, study, re-fitted breakfast kitchen
- Views to the front of Priory Park and Dudley Castle
- DUDLEY OFFICE

47 RICHBOROUGH DRIVE, DUDLEY £205,000

- Extended modern detached house with four bedrooms
- Conservatory, utility room, ensuite shower room
- Deceptively good sized accommodation with double glazing & gas central heating
- Pleasant position at the end of a private drive with considerable parking space
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

75 BATH STREET O/O £185,000
SEDGLEY

- Extended detached family home
- Three bedrooms, three reception rooms
- Breakfast kitchen
- Large garden plot
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

25 GREENACRE ROAD £169,950
TIPTON

- Semi detached house with three bedrooms
- Well maintained & improved
- Converted garage
- Attractive rear garden
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

73 OLD PARK ROAD £159,950
DUDLEY

- Extended semi detached house
- Three bedrooms
- Large kitchen, conservatory
- Utility room, shower room
- DUDLEY OFFICE

64 BROOK STREET £139,950
WOODSETTON

- Traditional style semi detached house
- Well presented three bedroom accommodation
- Majority gas central heating & double glazing
- Re-fitted bathroom
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

15 WHITES DRIVE OIRO £125,000
SEDGLEY

- Traditional detached bungalow
- Two bedrooms, large bathroom
- Tremendous character
- Large rear garden with views of protected countryside
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

102 EARL STREET £124,950
COSELEY

- Semi detached house
- Three bedrooms
- Well maintained & improved
- Conservatory
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

20 RAINHAM CLOSE £119,950
TIPTON

- Extended semi detached house
- Two bedrooms
- At the head of a quiet cul-de-sac
- Deceptive well maintained accommodation
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

27 BOUNDARY HILL £103,950
LOWER GORNAL

- Extended semi detached house
- Three bedrooms
- Breakfast kitchen
- Gas central heating
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

13 FIVEWAYS COURT £102,000
LOWER GORNAL

- Modern second floor apartment
- Spacious accommodation with two bedrooms
- Double glazing & gas central heating
- Superb views to the rear
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

540A BIRMINGHAM NEW ROAD £99,950
COSELEY

- Semi detached house
- Three bedrooms
- Deceptive accommodation
- Double glazing & gas central heating
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

12 BUFFERY ROAD £84,995
DUDLEY

- End terraced house
- Two bedrooms
- Double glazing & gas central heating
- 'L' shaped lounge
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

31 VIEW DRIVE £78,000
DUDLEY

- Good sized two bedroom flat
- Well presented throughout
- Re-fitted kitchen and bathroom
- Established residential area
- DUDLEY OFFICE

7 CLAREMONT COTTAGES OIRO £75,000
SEDGLEY

- Modern terraced bungalow
- One bedroom
- Cosmetic updating works required
- Good opportunity to purchase a retirement home
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

8 KINFARE RISE £72,950
UPPER GORNAL

- First floor flat
- Well maintained & improved
- Two bedrooms
- Rear garden
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

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MOTORING NEWS AND REVIEWS

CHRONICLE MOTORING

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Your essential guide to the world of motoring compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

Old faithful Fiesta rides to the rescue in Ford's time of need

By Ian Donaldson

FORD is losing shedloads of cash in Europe but is fighting back in the best way it can: building cars people want to buy and the balance sheet will turn from red to black.

Might take a while, mind you, but if the latest updates to the little Fiesta are anything to go by, at least Ford has set off on the right road (with a pot of gold at the end).

A big seller across Europe, and number one in the UK for months on end, the Fiesta is being given its mid-life revamp while still in the best of health.

That's a good sign. Many cars are given a modest styling tickle, and not much else, even as sales are on the slide. Not the Fiesta.

Easily spotted is the entirely new front, with hints of (whisper it) Aston Martin and a generally proper grown up feel.

Inside, there are flashes of silver and gloss black to add a touch of mature flair but it's under the bonnet where the real story is found.

For, along with already seen petrol and diesel engines, there's now the choice of three versions of Ford's new, and delightful three-cylinder petrol engine.

It comes in three power outputs and redefines what we can expect from a mere one litre, especially with the two versions employing a turbocharger to add puff.

Tried in its top 123 horsepower guise on the press launch around Rome, the Fiesta instantly proved the sort of car that, rear leg room and boot space apart, makes you wonder why you'd ever need anything else.

Six of the engines, including the trio of three-cylinder units, offered in the new Fiesta put out sufficiently little pollution to forget about road tax or the London congestion charge.

One of the Fiesta diesels promises nearly 86mpg in average running, but you'd need to be a light footed saint to approach that it real world motoring.

More impressive was the 44mpg I saw on a brisk route of mainly motorway and interesting uphill bends on the way to a view outside Rome. Pulling us along was the most powerful of the new three-cylinder engines and it's eager thrum and delicious pulling power turned the Fiesta into a pocket rocket without the GTI badge.

Turning for home (and lunch) the car headed downhill with just as much enthusiasm and sipped petrol to the tune of 55mpg, while still making the car as much fun to drive as the uphill leg.

The version we were trying was the £15,145 Zetec S 1.0T EcoBoost with 123bhp on tap and an official 65.7mpg in the unrealistic official consumption test every new car has to take.

Now for the rest of the upgrades: top of the list is something called MyKey; standard on every car and which lets an owner set limits for speed and sound system volume when handing the Fiesta over to someone else – probably a son or daughter with a new full licence.

To my surprise, there is only one top speed limit available on MyKey in the UK – 80mph, which seems more than enough to get an inexperienced driver into trouble. Ford says the car might need that speed to get out of a critical situation.

A big seller in Europe, the Fiesta has been top of the UK charts for months

This piece of technology also brings speed warnings chimes, an earlier low fuel warning limit and won't switch the radio on without seatbelts buckled up.

Then there's active city stop, fitted to higher grade models and using radar to halt the car before it hits something in low speed running and cutting speed, and the severity of the accident when you're travelling a bit faster.

Clever stuff, but the new engines are the stars. Try one today!

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61 Reg	RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCi DYNAMIQUE EST. Black. Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, Sat Nav, Leather, FSH	£9695	£47
06 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCi DYNAMIQUE. Gold. A/C, Alloys, CD, £30 Year Road Tax, FSH	£4195	£28
10 Reg	TOYOTA AYGO 1.0 i - BLUE . Blue. A/C, CD, £20 Year Road Tax, 5 door, 24k	£5695	£36
57 Reg	VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB 1.3 CDTi. Silver. Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, £30 Road Tax, 5 door, FSH	£5695	£36

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58 Reg	JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.0 D SE. Blue, 2009, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, Leather, Sat Nav, FSH	£7195	£42
55 Reg	MERCEDES - BENZ A180 CDi ELEGANCE SE. Gold. Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD	£5195	£33
07 Reg	MIINI ONE 1.4. Gold. CD Player. Half Leather Sport Seats. FSH	£6695	£42
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06 Reg	FORD KA 1.3i STYLE. Silver. Col coded, low Ins 3, FSH, 29k	£2695	£17
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09 Reg	FORD FIESTA 1.4 TITANIUM. Blue. A/C, Alloys, CD, 5 - door, Low Ins 4. 23k, FSH	£7695	£46
57 Reg	FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC. Green. A/C, Alloys, CD, 5 - door, Low Ins 4. 32k	£5195	£33
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06 Reg	PEUGEOT 1007 1.4 DOLCE. Silver. A/C, CD, Sliding doors, Ins Grp 3, FSH, 36k	£3195	£26
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09 Reg	NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCi ACENTA. Silver. Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 31k	£10495	£61
06 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 S 1.6 HDi ESTATE. Silver. Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH	£4195	£28
57 Reg	PEUGEOT 407 1.6 HDi SE ESTATE. Grey. Diesel. A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH	£5195	£33
61 Reg	RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCi DYNAMIQUE EST. Black. Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, Sat Nav, Leather, FSH	£9695	£47
07 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 DYNAMIQUE MPV. Gold, A/C, Alloys, CD, 47k	£4195	£28
07 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.5 DCi DYNAMIQUE MPV. Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH	£4195	£28
55 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 DYNAMIQUE MPV. Red, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH	£3395	£22
56 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 DYNAMIQUE MPV. Black, A/C, Alloys, CD, 34k	£4195	£28
12 Reg	TOYOTA AVENSIS 2.0 D-D4 TR ESTATE, Grey, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, Sat Nav, 3k	£17195	£83
08 Reg	VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 LIFE MPV. Silver. A/C, CD, FSH, 23k	£5195	£33
57 Reg	VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 LIFE MPV. Blue. CD, Ins Grp 4, 47k	£4195	£28
03 Reg	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 ELEGANCE BI-FUEL MPV. Red. Alloys, A/C, CD,	£2695	£17
58 Reg	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 LIFE MPV. Silver. A/C, CD, FSH, 28k	£6195	£38
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58 Reg	VAUXHALL COMBO 1700 1.3 CDTi . White. Diesel, CD, Panelled rear, FSH	£3695	£26

AUOTMATIC'S

12 Reg	CITROEN BERLINO 1.6 MULTISPACE VTR AUTOMATIC. Blue. Diesel. A/C, CD, 150kg Lift,130 miles	£12195	£72
08 Reg	HONDA CIVIC 1.8 i-VTEC EXECUTIVE. Black. A/C, Alloys, CD. Sat Nav, 51k, FSH	£5695	£36
53 Reg	TOYOTA YARIS 1.0 T3 MMT AUTOMATIC. Silver. Low Ins Grp 2, 47k	£3195	£21
02 Reg	MINI ONE 1.6 AUTOMATIC. Red, Alloys,CD, Panoramic Glass Roof, Ins Grp 5	£3695	£26
52 Reg	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi EASYTRONIC. Black, CD, FSH	£2495	£17

HATCHBACK'S & VARIOUS

56 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC. Red, A/C, Alloys, CD	£4695	£30
55 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.6 GHIA. Blue, A/C, Alloys, CD	£3995	£26
56 Reg	FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCi GHIA. Grey, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH	£3195	£21
59 Reg	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 S. Grey. Alloys, A/C, CD, FSH, 28k	£5695	£36
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 S. Black. A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 44k	£4195	£28
08 Reg	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 SPORT. Blue, A/C, Alloys, CD, 5 - door	£4495	£29
58 Reg	PEUGEOT 207 1.6 HDi S. Blue. 2009. Diesel. A/C, Alloys, CD, 5 - door	£5695	£36
58 Reg	PEUGEOT 308 1.6 HDi SPORT. Blue. Diesel. A/C, Alloys, CD,	£6195	£39
56 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 MAXIM. Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, 3 door, FSH, 37k	£3495	£23
08 Reg	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8i SRi. Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH	£4995	£32
55 Reg	VAUXHALL SIGNUM 1.9 CDTi ELEGANCE. Silver. Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH	£3195	£21
09 Reg	VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.9 CDTi. Grey. Diesel. A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH	£7695	£46
06 Reg	VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8i LIFE. Silver, A/C, CD	£3195	£21

All Prices After £300 Minimum Part Exchange Allowance

Finance Example : Cash Price £3995. Less Cash Price Or Part Exchange Deposit £500, Amount Of Credit £3495. Total Amount Payable £5453.60. 48 Monthly Payments Of £103.20 Or 208 Weekly Payments Of £23.82 TYPICAL 19.9% APR

09 Reg Nissan Qashqai £10495 or £61 wk

56 Reg Zafira 1.9 CDTi £5495 or £35 wk

61 Reg Clio 1.5 DCi £9695 or £47 wk

57 Reg 407 HDi Estate £5195 or £33 wk

06 Reg 1.4 Clio £3695 or £24 wk

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Advertisement Feature

Local Vauxhall Dealer Celebrates Sales Success

Dudley Motor Company are celebrating their latest unprecedented sales success at their recent Vauxhall VIP BIG Event, when during the weekend of 16th to 19th November, the company sold 60 vehicles of which a staggering 48 were NEW CARS!

These figures ensured that Dudley Motor Company were one of THE Top Selling Vauxhall Dealerships in the country for this nationwide event. This is backed up by their consistent record of achievement, in 2011 this company were winners of the Vauxhall Chairman's Award for Excellence whilst they have a string of Regional Excellence awards lining their walls that stretches back every year to 2006.

General Manager Rob Gilbert commented that success is a testament to the high standards of customer care that are required by Vauxhall of their dealerships, which consistently result in the company achieving high scores on customer surveys. This family run business of nearly 60 years is justifiably proud of these excellent standards in customer satisfaction, where personal service counts.

Rob Gilbert himself has worked for Vauxhall in Dudley for over 29 years whilst amongst this family run firms other loyal staff, Motability specialist, Tony Lister has over 50 years Vauxhall experience and Trevor Hollies in sales has over 34 years Vauxhall experience!

Dudley Motor Company now have over 50 part exchanges arriving within the next few weeks and we will be offering many of our cars at around cost price or below, so we can reduce our stocks down to a more manageable level.

During December and January, we will therefore be offering many one owner, low mileage part exchanges that will be priced TO GO! All cars will still benefit from the backing of this quality dealership for peace of mind. Supermarket Prices with Guaranteed Quality!! Rob Gilbert and his staff would like to wish all Dudley Motor Company friends and customers, a Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

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FORD MONDEO 1.8 LX TDCi 56 Reg, 5-dr. Silver, Air Con, 81k, FSH	£3495
JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.5 V6 AWD 54 Reg. 4-dr. Silver, Leather, Air Con, Alloys, 87k, FSH	£3495
RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE, Estate Auto, 57 Reg, 5-door, Blue, Air Con, Alloys, 47k, FSH	£3795
VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 EXCLUSIV 07 Reg, 5-dr. Silver, air con, 54k, FSH	£3995
RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCi MAXIM 06 Reg 5-dr. Black, Air Con, Alloys, 70k, FSH	£3995
VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 CLUB, 07 Reg, 3-door, Gold, Air Con, only 26k, FSH	£4495
PEUGEOT 307 1.6 HDi S 06 Reg, 5-dr. Silver, air con, alloys, 62k, FSH	£4495
RENAULT CLIO 1.4 DYNAMIQUE 57 Reg, 5-door. Black, Air Con, Alloys, 45k, FSH	£4795
PEUGEOT 207 1.4 SPORT 57 Reg, 3-dr. Blue Metallic, Air Con, Alloys, 39k, FSH	£4995
VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 SRi XP 58 Reg, 5-door, Silver, Air Con, Alloys, Sat Nav, 39k, FSH	£4995
VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SXi 57 Reg, 5-door, Red, Air Con, Alloys, 47k, FSH	SOLD
VW GOLF 2.0 SDi S 05 Reg, 5-door. Grey, Air Con, 59k, FSH	£4995
VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9 CDTi EXCLUSIV 08 Reg, 5-door. Air Con, Alloys, DAB Radio, 34k	£5995
VW PASSAT 2.0 TDi SE Estate, 07 Reg, 5-door. Blue, Air Con, Alloys, 72k, FSH	£6295
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FORD FIESTA 1.25 STYLE + 59 Reg, 5-dr. Blue, Air Con, 17k, FSH	£6895
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VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8 SRi, 10 Reg, 5-door, Grey, Air Con, Alloys, 34k, FSH	£7795
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VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SPORTHATCH DESIGN 57 Reg, 3-door, Air Con, Alloys, 51k, FSH	£4995
SEAT LEON 2.0 TDi SPORT, 06 Reg, 5-door, Black, Air Con, alloys, 66k, FSH	£6495
RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE S CABRIOLET 09 (58 Reg), Grey, Air Con, Alloys, 31K, FSH	£6995
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BMW 118i SPORT 07 Reg, 5-dr, Blue, Air Con, Alloys, 53k, FSH	£7695
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RENAULT SCENIC 1.9 DCi PRIVILEGE 56 Reg, 5-dr. Gold, Air Con, Alloys, Leather, 36k, FSH	£4995
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VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 LIFE 59 Reg 5-dr. Black, Air con, 41k, FSH	£6295
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Lion goes from strength to strength

Peugeot's RCZ Sport coupé comes with automatic lighting and follow-me-home feature

The coupé is presented with host of updates

THE restyled, new Peugeot RCZ which had its world premiere at September's Paris Motor Show will be launched in the UK in January 2013.

Central to the restyle of Peugeot's popular sports coupé is a dramatic update to the vehicle's front face, reinforced by an enhanced specification, a wider choice of equipment options with new colour and trim combinations.

For the UK, the new RCZ retains its popular, two level 'Sport' and 'GT' range line-up.

RCZ Sport continues with 18" 'Original' alloy wheels and a host of familiar features including dual-zone air conditioning, rear parking aid and USB box with Bluetooth. This rich specification is enhanced further by the addition of automatic lighting, including 'Approach' and 'Follow-me-home' features. New options on RCZ Sport include half leather and leather/ Alcantara trim treatments.

At the GT level, chosen by more than 80 per cent of customers, the new RCZ is fitted with 19" 'Technical' alloy wheels as standard. This new wheel is designed to maintain the dynamic visual appeal of GT, while also marking the advent of the restyle with a fresh new look.

The dynamism continues into the cabin of GT models with the standard fitment of the interior sports kit, complete with sports steering wheel and gear lever. Simple leather continues to define the interior of GT with the addition of an optional Cohiba Brown colour, on both simple and integral leathers.

Specification

Also available as an optional choice are new matt black roof arches – an identifiable and characteristic aspect of RCZ. There are new body transfer decals and more alloy wheel options, demonstrating the continued visual versatility of RCZ and the extensive choice available to customers.

In addition to the new look and enhanced specification, New RCZ remains very competitively priced. On-the-road prices for new RCZ Sport start from just £21,595 (an increase of £385 over the current RCZ Sport), with a 'price walk' of £2,400 to the new RCZ GT with an on-the-road start price of £23,995. Deliveries start from the second week of January 2013.

The 260bhp Peugeot RCZ R is launched towards the end of 2013.

Neil Moscrop, sales director at Peugeot UK, said: "We're delighted to have even more features that enhance the new RCZ, which has already proved to be a great hit with customers who love its characteristic double-bubble roofline and distinctive roof arches.

"One aspect with the RCZ is that because it looks 'a million dollars' most people assume it must be beyond their affordability, but a £21,595 starting price makes it astonishingly desirable."

Peugeot's RCZ coupe' – loving the open road

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excluding Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 67.3 (4.2), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 80.7 (3.5). CO_2 emissions: 324 - 94g/km.

Offers are available for registrations between 03.07.12 and 01.10.12 subject to availability and are available to private individuals and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). *Savings shown are against list price at time of publication, for details refer to Vauxhall's current price guide. All other sales categories are excluded; cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. UK-supplied vehicles only. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper. 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply.

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property

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A TWO BED FLAT off Tettenhall Rd. CH, DG, parking, £112 p/w. 01902 340073 or 07770 660636.

DSSMOVE.CO.UK the online property portal where every property says yes to DSS tenants.

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ONE BED FLATS / STUDIOS Tettenhall area, No DSS. 07976 263435 or 01902 700028.

ONE, TWO, THREE bed properties and rooms, W-ton. 1 bed flat Finchfield. DSS ok 01902 686605

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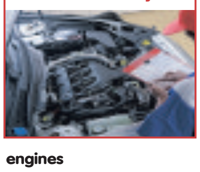

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MINI ONE, 2005, 55k miles, red, lovely condition, tax and MoT, fsh, AC, was Cat D hence only £3,950. 01743 352204.

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FORD FOCUS 1.6 Zetec Estate, 52 reg, fsh, full MoT, 5 months tax, immaculate inside/out, reluctant sale, £1,495. 07971 193439.

FORD KA 2 1999, 70k, one previous owner, fsh, 12 months MoT/tax, yellow, lovely condition £775. 01384 440258/07882 413544.

HONDA PRELUDE 2.2 V-TECH R Reg., black, MoT, tax April, FSH. £999. 07775 914172.

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NISSAN MICRA 1.2, V Reg, long tax and MoT, 89,000 miles, PAS, £450. Telephone 07954 724021.

NISSAN MICRA INSPIRATION. 1999., red, Petrol, half service history, Taxed / MoT'd. Mint condition. £950. 07789 893224.

PEUGEOT 106 1.1, 3 door, 2003, MoT Jan 2013, excellent condition, £850. 07974 207336.

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VAUXHALL ASTRA 1600cc, 8v, silver, 2000, 5dr hatch, MoT Oct 2013, CD, air con, CL, EW, £700 ono. 07896 651256.

VAUXHALL CORSA, W reg. 1 litre, MoT July 2013, new head gasket, 94,000 miles, £750. 07974 207336.

VAUXHALL VECTRA 03 reg, 90k, very good condition, fsh, tax and MoT April, £1,250. 01384 830793

VAUXHALL VECTRA 2.0 petrol, 95, full MoT, met blue/green, n/s, £900 no offers. 07809 454821.

VAUXHALL VECTRA S Auto, Est, 5dr new tyres, battery, stereo, good all round, £400. 01902 726673.

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GRACE Jones lookalike, black lady, 53, 5ft 11ins, OHAC, WLTM male, 45-65, 6ft plus for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397681**

LUCY beautiful big bottomed black female, very tactile, seeks mature honest white male for loving fun times. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397389**

KATHERINE 38, attractive, single, very lonely and looking for love, fun and male companionship. pls get in touch. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397123**

HI I'm Natalie 24, pretty, friendly, single, seeking energetic man for romantic walks, cosy nights in and fun-loving relationship. Any age/looks/race. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397489**

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TRACY 26, pretty petite brunette, possibly looking for LTR but definitely looking for fun times with outgoing guy. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397027**

CLARE 38, single mum, curvy hour glass, loves to be tactile, OHAC, WLTM caring male for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 399047**

PAULA 37, WLTM male companion for meals out, social drinking, weekends away, hopefully leading to a meaningful friendship with benefits! Any age. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 398503**

BLONDE attractive educated lady 50, young minded, seeks professional tall male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391818**

MICHELLE 39yr old nurse, slim, petite, blonde, blue eyes, looking to enjoy life with similar romantic, caring guy. Single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 398349**

CAROLINE attractive, kind, caring, 43, seeking kind, caring male for LTR, 45-50. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396837**

SARAH 23, attractive, brunette, slim, looking for male for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392979**

NATASHA single professional 39yr old brunette looking for fun and friendship with genuine guy, 30-50yrs. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395719**

TRISH tall slim young/good looking GSOH, professional, solvent, OHAC, affectionate and loves tlc, WLTM male who also likes to be in a loving relationship, 39-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397579**

CARING lady, 52, brown hair/eyes, seeks male, 30-60 for socialising, meals out, cinema, music, sports and having a laugh. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392883**

MANDY 36, size 10, looking for relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360317**

ALICIA 19yr old green eyed female, very attractive, slim, long hair, independent, looking for fun with mature male, no time wasters. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 390059**

I'M Julie 36yrs old, attractive, fit, blonde, solvent with OHAC seeking man to spoil and enjoy good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395051**

EASYGOING down to earth female, likes cooking, exploring new things in life, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386893**

LADY young 60, outgoing, friendly, smart, likes cinema, shopping, meals out, seeks similar female friends for days out and evenings. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387117**

PAULINE attractive petite nurse, loves evenings in/out, looking for honest male to share loving friendship and good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 379535**

BIG bubbly black female, single mum, looking for male for nights in and out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392501**

SUSIE gorgeously feminine and sensual, loves lazy summer days, misses male companionship WLTM someone with sense of adventure and lust for life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394117**

LOUISE youthful looking female looking for spontaneous male to put some love and lust back into life. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392491**

HOME alone with no one to call my own! 38yr old girl looking for fun. Can travel. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 363277**

LADY widow, 58, slim, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks smart, intelligent, easygoing man with GSOH who enjoys conversations, days out, short breaks, meals out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387247**

CATHY is a slim attractive lady with an open minded attitude to life, she WLTM a man of any age. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395657**

61YR old lady 5ft 2ins, medium build, long dark hair, smoker, seeks smart gent who wants to get out and about for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396409**

JANICE 40, 5ft 5ins, medium build, brown eyes, likes music, cooking, cosy nights in/out, seeks similar male for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397407**

LOUISE 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build, GSOH, kind, caring, honest, genuine, loving, WLTM male, 43-55 with similar qualities for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376165**

FARMER'S granddaughter, OHAC, stunningly attractive, respectable, sincere, WLTM countryman/bachelor, 48-62, 5ft 9ins plus, genuine, uncomplicated with GSOH and TLC. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387204**

JOY 36 petite medium build, blue eyes, loves romantic walks, meals in/out, WLTM male 30-45 for meets. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386629**

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GUY early 60's, fit, N/S, OHAC, seeks slim female, 30-60 for fun, adult times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 399567**

IAN 60, seeks active Wolverhampton lady for discreet daytime fun and mutual pleasure. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 399003**

DAVID 40, genuine, down to earth, seeking someone for nights out and great times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 398889**

32YR old slim, dark haired, adventurous, creative, likes music, bike rides, country walks and photography, seeks likeminded female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 352753**

RAYMOND 6ft, mid 70's, honest, caring, likes socialising, seeks caring lady for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 398695**

MALE 70's, honest, caring, attractive, likes socialising, seeks smart, attractive, caring lady for meetings. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397975**

DAVID slightly disabled, likes sports, meals out, nights in, seeks female for fun, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393192**

LOOKING for love. Telford male, 46, shaved head, average build, likes walks, meals out, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397941**

GENT mid 70's, seeks genuine lady, 65 plus for outings, holidays etc. leading to relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 398575**

57YR old male, good looking, seeking female for fun times and nights in. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397463**

BLONDE attractive educated lady 50, young minded, seeks professional tall male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391818**

GARY 39, seeks female, 30-50 for LTR and fun. Single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 398747**

FRIENDLY guy 49, tall, fit, GSOH, attractive, seeks lady for discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 399091**

TAYLOR 50, tall, athletic, GSOH, WLTM female, attractive, curvy for friendship, maybe more, food, communication, evenings out, travel. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 399067**

PAUL 60, seeks attractive Wolverhampton lady for discreet daytime relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397679**

TALL dark, good looking male, 53, seeks attractive female for daytime fun and exciting times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393380**

PAUL 47, short brown hair, blue/green eyes, 6ft, slim, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393456**

TALL male, 64, vitality and brain, seeks lady for discreet relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 398235**

MALE fun, outgoing, easy-going, seeking female for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393346**

55YR old male, likes sports, film, nights in, seeking female, 30-45 for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 398049**

63YR old male, fit, likes cooking/baking, tennis, seeks female, 37-50 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 398825**

STEVE 49, fed up, seeking female for fun and friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393218**

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STEVEN 49, good looking, likes a laugh, pubs, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397985**

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GAY male, 34, slim, toned, seeking older guy for fun, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395735**

MALE 44, seeking male, 18-23 for fun relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391626**

BI male, divorced, young, fit 50, own home/business, seeks male, 18-45 for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391849**

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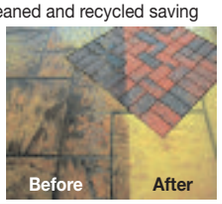

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Lions maul rivals to reach semi-finals

Stourbridge Lions 41 Kesteven 0

Rugby Union

STOURBRIDGE LIONS took a big step towards retaining their Midlands Senior Vase crown by thrashing Kesteven to march into the semi-finals.

The Lincolnshire visitors, second in Midlands Three East (North), and unbeaten this season, were overwhelmed at Stourton Park. The semi-final draw is on Monday.

Old Leamingtonians (Warwickshire), Stamford (Lincs) and Rushden & Higham (Northants) are in the hat for semi-finals on Saturday, February 9.

Kesteven started well and were camped in the Lions' 22m area for the first five minutes. Despite attempts to move the ball, they were thwarted by mistakes in their own back division.

Eventually the Lions started to play and missed a kickable penalty – the start of a poor day with the boot.

They scored after 17 minutes as captain Stuart Doolittle opted for a penalty to be kicked to the corner.

An accurate lineout throw from Richard Wythes was caught by Sam Strangward and a catch and drive in which four backs joined the eight forwards saw Doolittle cross for the first try.

The Lions then kept Kesteven pinned down.

After 30 minutes, strong midfield breaks from Aaron Boffey and Harry Wainwright led to a ruck near the line and Doolittle scored again, the kick converted by George Tildesley for a 12-0 half-time lead.

At the interval, Matthew Billingham replaced Craig Powis at prop and Simon Crouch came on for Jon Taylor. The first 10 minutes was all Lions.

After a number of phases the Kesteven flanker deliberately slowed the ball once too often and was yellow- carded – a pivotal point in the match.

Danny Cox turned on the style with a great run and passed inside to Doolittle for his third try. Further Cox runs nearly led to further tries in quick succession.

After 62 minutes, they won a lineout on the 22m line and Will Ballard scored to take the score to 22-0. From the next passage of play flanker Rich Pennock ripped the ball at a breakdown and the Lions moved it through several pairs of hands for Alex Moy to make the decisive break and finally pop up to Wainwright to score. Tildesley converted to make the score 29-0.

As the Kesteven players' heads dropped, the Lions ran in two further tries from Cox and Ballard, the latter converted by James Mitchell.

This was the best performance of the season for the Lions with head coach Ian Strangward delighted that the offload game that has been a feature of the team's play worked so well.

Two-goal lead lost at the last

Cambridge City 2 Stourbridge 2

GARY HACKETT'S men let slip a two-goal lead as City hit back for a deserved share of Evo-Stik Southern Premier spoils with two goals in the last 21 minutes.

After opportunities for both sides during the first half Geddes sent a 20-yard strike wide before, on the stroke of half-time, Jordan Fitzpatrick won a free-kick.

The ball was headed out for Billingham to volley in.

After the re-start City's James Brighton drove past the post and, in the 58th minute, passed for Mitchell Bryant. His shot was saved by Solly for a corner.

Solly collected the flag-kick and his clearance saw Knight challenge Miles Smith. The ball broke leaving Luke Benbow clear.

He rounded Barrett but, forced wide, poked the ball goalwards as he lost balance.

It deceived Barrett and Brighton and Luke Allen as they scurried back to see the ball trickle over the line.

On 69 minutes, a foul by Drew Canavan on Adam Marriott gave City a free-kick which Brighton curled past Solly. A minute into stoppage time, Hurren hit a low shot past Solly.

Win streak ended after four strikes

Belper Town 4
Halesowen Town 1

A FOUR-GOAL blast in the first half put paid to Yeltz hopes of four league wins in a row in Derbyshire.

Despite missing players such as Brendan Kelly and Neil Barnfield, they started well, but missed good chances for Jean-Michel Guyes and Ben Haseley.

Belper led on 22 minutes in the Evo-Stik Northern First Division South clash as Shaun Tuton lobbed over keeper Paul Evans.

Steve Warne increased the lead 10 minutes later and two goals from Richard Stirrup within a minute put paid to any chance of getting back in the game.

He provided neat finishes from the edge of the box on 34 and 35 minutes.

Halesowen were again guilty of missing chances, but got a consolation 10 minutes from time.

Ben Haseley's shot was stopped on the line but came back out to Naveed Arshad who smashed it into the net.

Title challenger Jason Czechs out southpaw

JASON WELBORN warmed up for his British welterweight title shot against Frankie Gavin with a points win at Wolverhampton Civic Hall – and some southpaw training.

Midlands champion Welborn will get his chance against Gavin at Walsall Town Hall on Friday, January 18 with the bout screened live on BoxNation.

With that in mind, Czech southpaw Jan Balog was shipped in to face Welborn at Wolverhampton – and the 30-year-old showed the Rowley Regis man what to expect.

A disjointed 10-rounder saw Welborn got rounds in against a southpaw and decked him twice, only for the visitor to rise each time and take him to the distance.

First, Balog slumped to the canvas from a right hook to the body and then, in the final session, was hit by a right hook to the temple that made him take a knee again.

Victory was Welborn's by a 100-89 but he left with a clearer idea of what is ahead.

Chance

On the undercard, Walsall's Martin Gethin will finally get a chance at the now-vacant British and Commonwealth lightweight belts against Ben Murphy.

A third title contest sees Walsall's Christopher Keane face ex-British champion Shane McPhilbin for the belt he still holds, the Midlands cruiserweight title.

Keane took on Ugandan-born Northern Ireland resident Moses Matovu at Wolverhampton in a six-rounder. The 26-year-old ex-ABA super-heavyweight national amateur champ blew off ring rust built up since starting as a pro.

by Craig Birch

After leaving the amateurs more than three years ago, Keane has had eight fights and is undefeated.

Against Matovu Keane focused and took chances on the inside to score the most eye-catching of the punches.

Matovu let fly in the second half, but loaded hooks fell mostly on Keane's high guard, as he took the points decision by 60-54.

Bloxwich's Luke Paddock, a Clubs for Young People national finalist as an amateur, turned pro with a four-round light welterweight fight against Matt Seawright.

He was erratic at the start but settled with Seawright given just a share of one round. Birmingham's Andrew Robinson and Thomas Costello added wins to unbeaten records, at light-middleweight and super-middle respectively.

Robinson won a brawl with Trowbridge's Dan Phelps with 40-36 points, while Costello crumpled Hungarian Norbert Szekeres in half with body shots.

Jason Welborn, left, pins Jan Balog to the ropes and lands a right hook to the body. *Pictures: Patrick Mulvaney*

Victory for Christopher Keane

Thomas Costello, left, lands on Norbert Szekeres

Costello marks his win

Reuben's on top of the world

A GORNAL martial arts fighter has claimed world title success in France.

Fifteen-year-old Reuben Charlesworth, of Lower Gornal, was one of three competitors from Sandwell's Charlesworth Martial Arts who represented England at the International Combat Organisation's world championships at Disneyland, Paris.

The three came back with four world crowns between them.

Charlesworth took a remarkable double, retaining his 65kg 18-year-old and under crown – and then taking the honours in the men's black belt division.

Smethwick 16-year-old Weston Bogle, an Oldbury Sports College student, won his age group 75kg class.

Wollescote's Kyeran Cox, who missed last year's championships with a knee injury, got the British contingent cheering with a semi-final victory over one of the main German contenders.

The Worcester University student then beat that country's No.1 in the final.

Letford lets fly with five in big win

Gornal Ladies 0
Halesowen Town Ladies 11

HALESOWEN took a while getting going on a sticky pitch but once they did, they rattled in double figures.

Rachel Letford got the first of five goals in the League Cup match with a low shot in off the keeper and then converted a quality cross from Lyndsey Glover.

Sian Whittall scored a brace with Dani Reade and Charlotte Byatt providers.

Halesowen played even better in the second period, tackling well and moving the ball with quick passes.

New signing Shannie Jennings' hat-trick came from cutting in each time and displaying excellent finishing.

Nicola Finlay headed home and Letford scored the goal of the game to round off a good passing movement.

She added her fourth and fifth to complete the scoring.

Halesowen manager Scott McKee praised Gornal's "good young footballing side", adding: "I think they played well, but just lacked that bit of quality Halesowen have."

SPORT

Seconds out
More action from the Welborn bill
Page 47

Big paws
Lions reach next February's semis
Page 47

Sports Desk 01902 319461 e-mail: chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

Honours shared in thriller of a match

Tipton Town 3 Gornal Ath 3

TIPTON TOWN and Gornal Athletic shared points in a Midland Alliance thriller.

A last-gasp goal from Paul Henley saved Tipton, who had trailed 3-0 to a high-flying Gornal who had the hosts reeling at times.

Tipton skipper Tom Tonks fired inches over and then drove a shot wide but Gornal went in front after 17 minutes as Rion Frances-Mills forced the ball home after a corner.

He was on the spot again after home keeper Jack Hayfield was out of his ground.

Chris Rabone quickly heralded the start of the second half by testing Hayfield as the visitors appeared intent upon making their superiority tell.

They stormed into a 3-0 lead soon after the break-when Calum Martin lofted his drive past the keeper.

But Tipton rallied and Nigel Penney sprinted through to set up Mitch Plows to reduce the arrears.

The home side threw caution to the wind and, as Gornal's game began to falter, so openings appeared.

Penney took advantage and forced the ball home to make it 3-2.

James Pemberton, in the visiting goal, made a quality save in the 88th minute from Tonks before, with the last throw of the dice, Tipton rescued the game.

In a desperate goalmouth scramble, Henley shot into the Gornal net from Graham Ashton's accurate cross to level the scores.

Dean forced out on stool

DUDLEY'S Dean Anderson retired on his stool after eight rounds with Gavin McDonnell, twin brother of IBF world title No.1 contender Jamie McDonnell.

Gavin showed skills becoming his European and British bantamweight champion brother in seeing off the visitor at their hometown Doncaster Dome on Saturday night.

A Central area title holder in his own right, Gavin McDonnell wore out Anderson and added the British Masters super-bantamweight belt to his record with the victory.

It was Anderson's second professional defeat – both inside the distance – but he can still boast five wins, two of them by stoppage, and a draw.

Kings' winning streak comes to an abrupt end

Kingswinford Hockey Club

Wednesbury 4 Kingswinford 3

AN EIGHT-GAME winning streak for Kingswinford men's firsts came to a abrupt end at Wednesbury.

In a closely-fought fixture, Kings threw away a 3-1 lead in the second half.

They were once again their own worst enemy, missing key chances and losing possession too easily.

However, outbreaks of good play did lead to goals and chances being created.

The first 10 minutes were a quickly-paced affair with both teams fighting hard for possession. Wednesbury broke the deadlock halfway through the first half, although Ajay Sandhu levelled with a superb piece of skill to beat two defenders and convert from an awkward angle just five minutes later.

Shortly before the break, Mark Wilson's drag flick was deflected in off a defender's stick to put Kings ahead going into the half-time interval.

The team talk seemed to work wonders on Kingswinford as they hit the ground running when some brilliant passing led to Sam George extending their lead.

But at this point they seemed to press the self-destruct button and Wednesbury scored three more times before the final whistle to take the three points.

Kings have a double header this weekend, facing bottom of the table Whitchurch on Saturday and table-toppers Market Drayton the following day.

Bromsgrove 10 Kingswinford 4

Kingswinford thirds were up against it at Redditch on a cold but sunny afternoon for a friendly fixture against Bromsgrove.

With a squad of only 10 and no goalkeeper initially available, Kings battled hard against strong opposition. Bromsgrove took the lead but there was soon a response through Ed Martin's fine strike.

Bromsgrove regained the lead, but debutant Clive Steedman equalised immediately.

Ieuan Moraghan then volunteered to go in goal; this had little effect as Bromsgrove scored two further goals before half-time.

Kings tried their hardest in the second half, but Bromsgrove proved to be too strong and rattled in another six.

Kings did manage to score two goals through Richard Turner and Martin to make the final score 10-4.

Dale go nap but still have to defend

Tividale 5 Heath Hayes 3

TIVIDALE raced to a 5-1 lead then had to defend desperately for the final five minutes after Heath Hayes snatched two goals back.

But the home side had done enough in this Midland Alliance clash and are handily placed in fifth.

Tividale scored twice in as many minutes after the half-hour. First Matt Jukes broke clear and, although Adam Lane did well to save his shot, the alert Kyle Hill hammered home the rebound.

Almost from the restart, Jukes broke free to lob the advancing Lane for the second.

The second half opened disastrously for Hayes as Kyle Brady and Jukes combined after just two minutes for the latter to hold off his marker and fire home to make it three.

Hayes responded and home keeper Tim Beech saved superbly from Craig Hancox and Dave Waple.

However, Tividale added a fourth after 75 minutes when Jason Chilton and Jukes exchanged passes before Chilton unleashed a tremendous shot.

Lane got a hand to it, but could not keep it out.

Fifteen minutes from time, Hayes reduced the arrears through substitute Leaden Dunleavy only for Brady to break away again from a quickly-taken free-kick in his own half to make it 5-1.

Goals from Waple and Brad Grice made it closer and a combination of Beech and the woodwork then denied Hayes an unlikely share of the spoils.

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DUDLEY WIN RACE TO SIGN YOUNG ACE

Dudley Heathens

DUDLEY have won the race to sign brilliant youngster Nathan Greaves for the 2013 season.

Greaves, 15 in February, is the British Under-16 Champion in both the 500cc and 250cc categories. From Chesterfield, he races alongside Max Clegg at reserve next season – and that means the combined age of the two will be just 30.

They are joined by new skipper Ashley Morris, Dan Greenwood and Lewis Blackbird from Mildenhall.

Greaves is delighted at joining the former Cradley club after having options.

He said: "I'm very pleased to be joining Dudley. I went down there last season to have a look at what their meetings were all about, because I'd heard so much about them.

"Sam Ermolenko has been advising me and I had lots of things to consider.

"But one of the reasons I went for Dudley was because of the Wolverhampton track. It's a good track to learn on and hopefully I will get the place weighed up in competitive racing fairly quickly.

Nathan Greaves – signing
Picture: Tony Fowles

Great

"I know all the lads in the Dudley team. Ashley will be a great skipper, Lewis Blackbird will be a good signing and Dan Greenwood is also from Chesterfield, although he lives down in the Dudley area now.

"Max and me know each other well and he was another reason why I wanted to join Dudley, to be in the same team as him.

"I had options and I had to weigh everything up – but I just feel Dudley is the best place for me to start my career. I'd like to thank the other interested parties, but I took on board advice from people I respect and the opportunity to join Dudley was too good to turn down at this stage.

"I will go there and give it my all in the 2013 season and see how I get on.

"They have put no pressure on me, they aren't setting me targets or anything like that and I just hope I can put my average up to something like five in my first year.

"But I'm not going to put myself under any pressure and I know the Dudley fans are brilliant. I can't wait to start racing in front of them every home meeting – it's an amazing atmosphere."

■ The next signing will be unveiled at the Heathens Christmas Party at Cradley Heath Liberal Club on Friday, December 21. Tickets are on sale now.

Jason is well-prepared for shot at British title

Jason Welborn, left, of Rowley Regis prepared for his British welterweight title shot with a win over Jan Balog at Wolverhampton Civic Hall. He floored his Czech opponent twice. Full story and more pictures – Page 47

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